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ABSTRACT

The Commission on Preservation and Access was established in 1986 to foster and support collaboration among libraries and allied organizations in order to ensure the preservation of the published and documentary record in all formats and to provide enhanced access to scholarly information. The Commission's newsletter keeps the preservation and access professional updated on current developments, issues, and technologies. This document consists of all 11 issues of this newsletter published in 1994 (November-December was a combined issue). 1994 highlights include: "Cornell Submits Final Report On Digital Technologies Testbed" (January); "Working Paper on the Future" (February); "Developing a European Commission on Preservation and Access" (March); "New Report on Authenticity of Preserved Electronic Information" (April); "American Institute for Conservation (AIC), Commission Exploring Joint Concerns" (May); "Carnegie Supports Study of Implications of Technologies" (June); "M. Stuart Lynn Assumes Commission Presidency" (July); Summary reports of the Medieval Academy of America Committee on Library Preservation and the Scholarly Advisory Committee on Art History (August); "A Science Review: Research on Paper Aging" (September); "Russia Reports on Preservation Reformatting, Collaboration" (October); and "Magnetic Media Partnership to Develop Management Tool" (November-December 1994). (MAS)

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The Commission on Preservation & Access Newsletter: January to December 1994

IR 016 959

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The Commission on Preservation and Access

Providing Access To The Accumulated Human Record As Far Into The Future As Possible

Newsletter

Number 63 JANUARY 1994

CORNELL SUBMITS FINAL REPORT ON DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES TESTBED

A final report from Cornell University on work conducted under contract to the Commission describes the results of Phase II of the project *A Testbed for Advancing the Role of Digital Technologies for Library Preservation and Access*. As a part of the work of the digital preservation consortium, Cornell established a testbed for evaluating both new uses of digital imaging technology for library applications and new technologies that may advance library preservation and access.

In Phase II, a testbed facility was established, the quality of image capture capabilities associated with binary scanning was further evaluated, and network access to the digital library was extended through the development of a client/server architecture. Internet access was provided via a digital library server and software "clients" designed to run on standard desktop computers used by students and faculty members, such as Macintoshes, IBM PC's and Sun workstations.

The project also explored the creation of digital computer output microfilm (COM). In cooperation with Image Graphics, Inc., Cornell tested the feasibility of producing microfilm from high resolution digital images by means of an electronic beam recorder. After evaluating the quality of the resulting film based on a formula recently developed by an AIIM (Association for Information & Image Management) technical committee, Cornell concluded that a scanning resolution of 600 dots per inch is sufficient to produce digital COM that meets ANSI/AIIM standards for image quality for virtually all books published during the period of paper's greatest brittleness. Issues surrounding quality, processing, costs, and vendor services associated with the conversion process have yet to be resolved.

More complete descriptions of Phase II results are available in the final report, *A Testbed Advancing the Role of Digital Technologies for Library Preservation and Access* by Anne R. Kenney and Lynne K. Personius, Project Managers, (October 1993, 91+ pages). Copies are available for $10.00 from the Department of Preservation & Conservation, Cornell University, 214 John M. Olin Library, Ithaca, New York 14853-9346. The report's executive summary is included with this newsletter. A report on Phase I, *Cornell/Xerox/Commission on Preservation and Access Joint Study in Digital Preservation Report: Phase I*, is available from the Commission for $10.00.

Additional support for the Cornell project came from the Xerox Corporation, Sun Microsystems, Inc., and the New York State Program for the Conservation and Preservation of Library Materials.

COMMISSION PUBLICATIONS TO BECOME AVAILABLE ON THE CAUSE EXCHANGE LIBRARY

In October 1993, the Commission granted permission to make its publications available in electronic form to CAUSE (The Association for Managing and Using Information Technology in Higher Education). The publications will be a part of the CAUSE Exchange Library, and will be made available online through the Gopher system.

CAUSE announced the project at its annual meeting December 1993. According to Dr. Michael Zastrocky, Vice President for Information Resources at CAUSE, "This is a major improvement to providing services to people both through the Email and Gopher systems," and went on to say that they hoped to have the publications available online as early as January.

ORDER FORM AVAILABLE

An updated version of the publication order form is now available. It includes the Commision's latest publication *Preserving The Intellectual Heritage, A Report of The Bellagio Conference held at the Rockefeller Foundation and Study Center, Bellagio, Italy*. For a copy of the order form, write to the attention of Sonny Koerner at the Commission, or call (202) 939-3400.

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RLG DIGITAL IMAGE ACCESS PROJECT UNDERWAY

The Research Libraries Group (RLG) has launched a one-year collaborative project to explore the capabilities of digital image technology for managing access to photographic collections. Eight RLG institutions will work together to find ways to streamline indexing methods and capitalize on the online digital environment for improving access to collections, not just for local projects but for shared access in a networked environment. In total, 8,000 photographs from the collections of these RLG members will be digitized, and image access software will be created.

Working with Stokes Imaging Services (Austin, TX), the RLG cooperative project will employ state-of-the-art digital-imaging technology to enable institutions to reproduce images quickly and inexpensively at resolutions adequate for browsing, researching, and printing reference copies. The project will develop, test, and evaluate a digital image access system consisting of databases, image bases, and software for searching, retrieving, and displaying images.

The project was designed by the RLG Task Force on Photograph Preservation, a six-member group formed in July 1992 to address issues inherent in accessing and preserving large photograph collections. The task force has also developed a second, parallel project, in partnership with Stokes Imaging Services and the Image Permanence Institute (IPI), to explore relative cost-benefit tradeoffs in the technical aspects of digitization, including image capture, resolution, compression, storage, and display. For more information about either project, contact Patricia McClung, RLG Director of Member Support & Services, at (415) 691-2236.

— Adapted from RLG press release

EXHIBIT SCHEDULED FOR AHA, AAP MEETINGS

The Commission's modular exhibit, including its new center photo-panels (see Nov.-Dec. 1993 issue), is scheduled to attend a number of professional and scholarly conferences throughout the coming year. From the sixth through the ninth of January, the exhibit is at the American Historical Association's (AHA) 108th Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA, where 30 affiliated societies are contributing to an attendance approaching over 4,000. Immediately following AHA's meeting, the exhibit will travel to the Tarlton Law Library at The University of Texas at Austin. The exhibit will then return to Washington, DC, where it is scheduled at the Association of American Publishers' (AAP) Professional/Scholarly Publishing Division Annual Meeting. The AAP's February 9-10 meeting should attract between 250-275 attendees from backgrounds related to scientific, technical, medical, professional and scholarly publishing.

The new exhibit is sponsored by the Gladys Krieble Delmas and H. W. Wilson Foundations. For further information about the Commission's exhibits contact Sonny Koerner at (202) 939-3400.

SLOW FIRES VIDEO AVAILABLE IN SECAM FORMAT

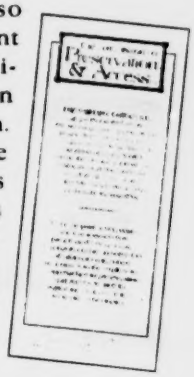
The video *Slow Fires: On the Preservation of the Human Record* is now available in the SECAM format, a version that is compatible with European systems as well as other countries around the globe. The film, which was produced in 1988, will be made available in this new format through the American Film Foundation in response to a joint venture between the Commission and the National Library of Medicine to make the film more accessible to the worldwide preservation community.

This version is scheduled to be used as part of a six-month lecture series to begin this month at the Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic. Copies of the SECAM version of *Slow Fires* are available for $39.50 (plus $10.00 for s/h) by contacting the American Film Foundation at (310) 459-2116.

NEW COMMISSION BROCHURE AVAILABLE

A new twelve-page brochure provides a synopsis of the Commission's 1993-94 initiatives and highlights from the 1992-93 Annual Report. These highlights include information about the Commission's International Project, Technology Assessment Advisory Committee, Scholarly Advisory Committees, The Brittle Books Program, Archives, Communication, and Institutional and Education Initiatives.

The brochure also includes a convenient order form for additional information about the Commission. It is available in single and multiple copies for use as handouts for displays and conferences. For more information, contact Sonny Koerner at (202) 939-3400.



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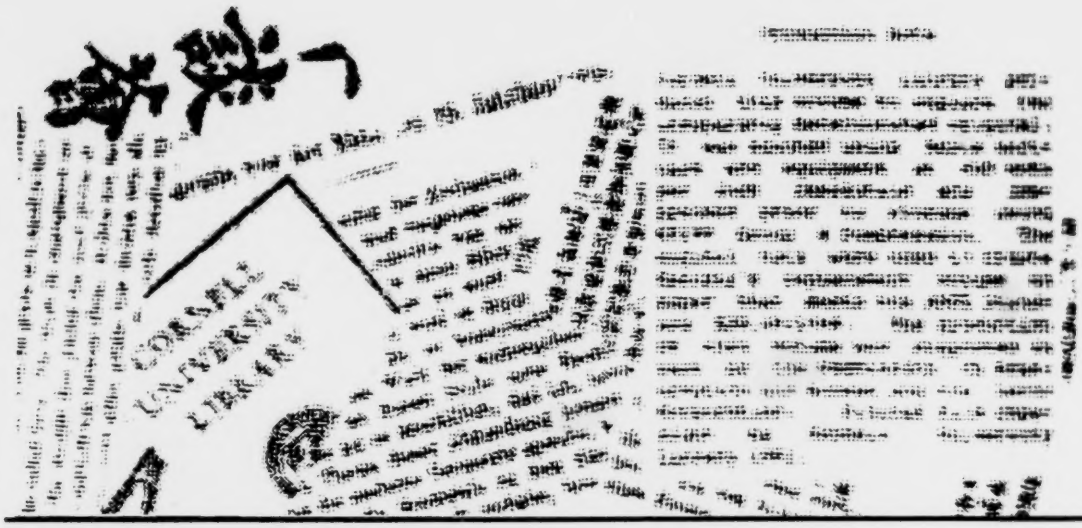
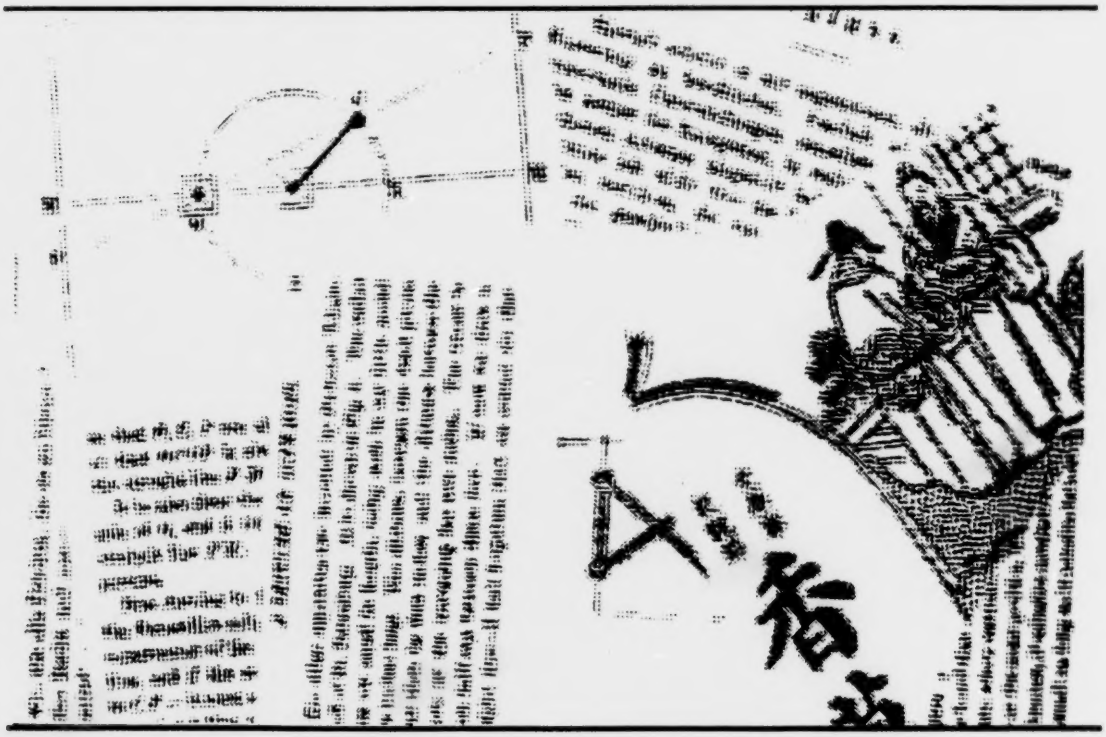
The Commission on Preservation and Access was established in 1986 to foster and support collaboration among libraries and allied organizations in order to ensure the preservation of the published and documentary record in all formats and to provide enhanced access to scholarly information.

The newsletter reports on cooperative national and international activities and is directed to university administrators, scholars, and faculty; preservation specialist and managers; and members of consortia, governmental bodies, and other groups sharing in the Commission's goals. The newsletter is not copyrighted. Its duplication is encouraged.

Patricia Battin - President
Maxine K. Sitts - Program Officer, Editor
Sonny Koerner - Managing Editor



A Testbed for Advancing the Role of Digital Technologies for Library Preservation and Access



Final Report by Cornell University to The Commission on Preservation and Access —October, 1993

Anne R. Kenney and Lynne K. Personius, Project Managers

I. Executive Summary

Cornell has embarked on a program to encourage the use of digital technology to enhance access to library materials and to provide a new alternative for preservation reformatting of brittle library material. Phase I of this program, a joint study conducted by Cornell with the Commission on Preservation and Access and the Xerox Corporation, led to a number of conclusions regarding preservation, access, electronic technology, and the role of the library. In particular, Cornell established the effectiveness of digital technology to preserve and make available research library materials.

In Phase II, Cornell extended its exploration of the use of digital imaging technology by establishing a **Testbed**, for evaluating both new uses of digital technology for library applications, and new technologies that may advance library preservation and access. The **Testbed**, as in Phase I a collaborative effort on the part of Cornell Information Technologies and the Cornell University Library, has been sponsored by the Commission on Preservation and Access, with additional support from Xerox Corporation, Sun Microsystems, Inc., and the New York State Program for the Conservation and Preservation of Library Research Materials.

At the conclusion of Phase II, a Testbed facility has been established, the quality of image capture capabilities associated with binary scanning further evaluated, the creation of digital computer output microfilm explored, and network access to the Digital Library extended through the development of a client/server architecture.

MAIN CONCLUSIONS

1. **Effective access over the Internet to an image-based digital library can be achieved from a variety of workstations.**

   Phase I demonstrated the feasibility of remote access through the delivery of digital images over the Cornell network for printing and for viewing on a prototype workstation. Phase II development centered on defining the architecture and developing systems needed to support extended remote access to the digital library. Internet access is provided via a digital library server and software "clients" designed to run on standard desktop computers that students and faculty members would commonly have, such as Macintoshes, IBM PC's, and Sun workstations. The client software provides access across the Internet at speeds comparable to what is available locally. Client/server computing is an evolving application architecture that is expected to play a major role in providing network access to digital libraries across the country.

2. **Cornell has defined a document control structure that incorporates the best features of the various Xerox prototype systems from Phase I, and will maintain its digital library in that form.**

   Through the implementation of document control structures, digital technology offers a means to facilitate access and to provide links between the bibliographic record and material located in the digital library. Preliminary experiments with network viewing of digital books has verified the early assumption that information about the internal organization of a document, its structure, is essential for ease of navigation from a viewstation. Cornell has defined a non-proprietary document architecture which incorporates the best parts of the various prototypes from Phase I, and has decided to maintain its digital library in that form.

3. **Digital computer output microfilm that meets national standards for quality can be produced from 600 dpi binary scanning.**

   Cornell University, in cooperation with Image Graphics, Inc., tested the feasibility of producing microfilm from high resolution digital images by means of an electron beam recorder. Cornell evaluated the quality of the resulting film, computed its "digital resolution" based on a formula recently developed by an AIIM technical committee, and compared it to printers' type sizes used by publishers during the period 1800-1950. Based on these analyses, Cornell has concluded that a scanning resolution of 600 dots per inch is sufficient to produce digital computer output microfilm

(COM) that meets ANSI/AIIM standards for image quality for virtually all books published during the period of paper's greatest brittleness.

Although the Cornell experiment demonstrated the technical feasibility of producing preservation microfilm, some of the issues surrounding quality, processing, costs, and vendor services associated with the conversion process have yet to be resolved. Cornell will continue its investigation into the use of digital technology to produce microfilm that meets preservation standards, while also allowing for the flexibility in storage, distribution, and access associated with the technology.

4. **Binary scanning can reproduce many categories of printed illustrations and archival material in a manner superior or comparable to the quality obtained with standard light lens photocopy and microfilm processes.**

Where Phase I focused on preserving brittle books that were largely textual, Phase II extended the evaluation to include a review of the applicability of digital imaging technology for printed illustrations and a wide array of archival material. Based on this experimentation, Cornell has concluded that binary scanning can result in the production of paper facsimiles for a wide range of material that are superior or comparable to photocopy versions. For some material, and for purposes other than printing, however, gray scale or color scanning may be more appropriate reformatting options. More experimental work is needed to examine the various tradeoffs associated with the use of gray scale and color scanning.

5. **The infrastructure developed for library preservation and access activities supports other applications in the electronic dissemination of information.**

The infrastructure created to support the Testbed provides the basic components for many electronic publishing applications and is designed to encourage widespread collaboration among institutions. Cornell University is presently conducting several collaborative projects for incorporating other material into the digital library, including current periodicals, dissertations, research reports, and newly-published books. Discussions are underway with other institutions that would lead to the creation of union collections accessible in a common fashion over the Internet.

• More complete descriptions of Phase II results are available in the final report, *A Testbed Advancing the Role of Digital Technologies for Library Preservation and Access* by Anne R. Kenney and Lynne K. Personius, Project Managers, (October 1993, 91+ pages). Copies are available from the Department of Preservation & Conservation, Cornell University, 214 John M. Olin Library, Ithaca, New York 14853-9346.

NYSCPP ANNOUNCES GRANT AWARDS

The New York State Conservation/Preservation Program (NYSCPP) has announced its 1993/94 grant awards. The program, administered by the State Library's Division of Library Development, is part of New York's library legislation to provide State funding for libraries and other organizations engaged in efforts to preserve deteriorating library research materials. Among the awards for 1993-94 are:

- Cornell University Library's one-year demonstration project in cooperation with the 11 comprehensive research libraries in New York State to test and evaluate network access to Cornell's growing digital library. This project builds on work previously conducted at Cornell as part of the Commission's Digital Preservation Consortium to advance the use of digital technology to preserve and make accessible research library materials.
- Columbia University Libraries will conduct a small pre-pilot test run of the dimethyl zinc (DEZ) mass deacidification process provided by Akzo Chemicals, Inc. The purpose of the pre-pilot is to gain sufficient experience with mass deacidification to enable the participants to design a full scale project for the 11 New York State comprehensive research libraries.
- The University of Rochester will conduct a scientific research and development project to investigate the optimum storage strategies for color photography. The Image Permanence Institute will generate from accelerated aging tests the data necessary to apply the "isoperm" approach — in which the effects of storage temperature and humidity on life expectancy are quantified over a wide range of possible conditions — to four important and representative types of color photographs. The four materials used will be the most common (best selling) color negative film, color slide film, color print paper, and cinema positive film now on the market. This project complements research recommended by the Commission's Preservation Science Council.

For more information about the Conservation/Preservation Program, contact the New York State Library, Division of Library Development at (518) 474-6971.

— Adapted from a press release from The New York State Program for the Conservation and Preservation of Library Research Materials.

Librarians, who see the preservation of the nation's intellectual heritage as one of their basic tasks, look on the Internet with mixed feelings. On the one hand, they appreciate the ease of electronic access to information. On the other, they know that much of what is being distributed on the networks will be lost forever.... There are myriad technical problems having to do with how you move information across various generations of hardware and software.

— Clifford A. Lynch, Director of Library Automation, Office of the President, University of California system, quoted in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, July 28, 1993, "Electronic Riches are Free on the Internet, but SomeWorry About the Consequences," pages A20-21.

EFLC ANNOUNCES SURVEY ON THE USE OF PERMANENT BOOK PAPER

The European Foundation for Library Cooperation (EFLC) recently announced the launching of a survey on the use of permanent book paper. The survey, conducted by a Dutch company at the request of the EFLC, consists of a cover letter explaining the project and a short questionnaire.

According to a memo from Marc Walckiers, Secretary to the EFLC, the survey will be distributed to some 2,000 European publishers. EFLC hopes to gain a large enough response to the survey to gauge the current use of permanent book paper and direct a campaign for its promotion among European publishers.

PROJECT IBID CONCLUDES EXPLORATIONS

Directors of the exploratory Project IBID have decided that their major goal — to stimulate interest in using on-demand printing technology to provide access to needed scholarly materials that have gone out-of-print (OP) — has been accomplished, and they will not be seeking support for a demonstration. During the early phases of IBID project directors conducted a feasibility study on using digital technology for reprinting OP resources needed by college libraries and others for instructional and scholarly purposes. After gathering data on operational factors and costs, project directors met with several publishers and college librarians to discuss the concept further. Currently, several universities publishers are acquiring on-demand printing capabilities, and it appears likely that this method of providing access to OP materials will become more widely used without the need for a centralized program as proposed by Project IBID.

In its exploratory phase, Project IBID was met with considerable interest on the part of publishers, both academic and commercial. The project was co-directed by College Libraries Committee members Willis Bridegam and David Cohen. IBID was supported with funds and in-kind contributed costs from Amherst College, the College of Charleston, SOLINET, Inc., and the Commission.

NEWS FROM THE COMMISSION BOARD

At its annual meeting October 29, 1993, the Commission board re-elected Billy E. Frye as chairman. The board accepted the resignation of David Penniman, president of the Council on Library Resources.

Following the board meeting, representatives of the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges and the Coalition for Networked Information were invited to an afternoon presentation on the nature and history of copyright law as it has applied to education and research. The presentation was led by Professor L. Ray Patterson, Pope Brock Professor of Law at the University of Georgia Law School.

JEWELRY HISTORY REPORT HIGHLIGHTED BY JEWELER'S BOOK CLUB

A 1992 report by a Commission intern is featured in the Fall 1993 issue of the *Jeweler's Book Club News*. The report, *Jewelry History: A Core Bibliography in Support of Preservation*, by Christine De Bow Klein, is described as a useful source of historical information. The review also notes the relationships between brittle books and access to this information, and closes with advice for jewelry-related associations interested in helping preserve access. The *Jeweler's Book Club News* is published quarterly by Jeweler's Circular-Keystone. Copies of *Jewelry History: A Core Bibliography in Support of Preservation* are available from the Commission for $12.00, prepaid.

"Preservation is not just about binding. Indeed, it is only a very little about binding. Its principal focus (and therefore ours) is on the management of stock, buildings and people to ensure that information is available to clients when and where they need it. We are therefore interested in contingency planning (against fire, for example) and in security measures (against theft) at least as much as we are in the niceties of the binding of serials. Preservation is an aspect of resource management. It saves money, because it hopes to make information resources available to clients. These are core issues of professional practice, central to the provision of effective information and library services. At a time of chronic underfunding and institutionalized uncertainty in almost all library services, such issues take on an even greater importance."

— Excerpt from "Preserving Materials-Saving Resources? or, not preserving can damage your wealth", by Paul Eden, John Feather and Graham Matthews. Published by The British Library in the Summer 1995 issue of *Library Conservation News*.

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The Commission on Preservation and Access

Providing Access To The Accumulated Human Record As Far Into The Future As Possible

SPECIAL ISSUE

Number 64 February 1994

Working Paper on the Future

How do changes in technologies, in higher education, and in the very nature of "preservation and access" affect the agenda of the Commission? This Working Paper on the Future was prepared by the board and staff to serve as a guide for future directions for the Commission at a time when the emphasis on preservation of knowledge originally issued in print form is shifting to the preservation of access to recorded knowledge in all formats. In endorsing the paper at the October 1993 annual meeting, the board asked that it be distributed to sponsors by letter and to the general public via the newsletter. The paper also is being shared with candidates for the presidency of the Commission.

The Commission on Preservation and Access was incorporated as a non-profit tax-exempt public charity on July 1, 1988, after two years as a project activity of the Council on Library Resources. The official purposes as stated in the Bylaws for which the Commission is organized and operated are the following:

- To foster, develop, and support systematic and purposeful collaboration among all libraries, archives, and allied organizations in order to insure the preservation of the published and documentary record in all formats and to provide enhanced access to scholarly information.
- To develop and carry out the collaborative plans and procedures that will enable libraries and preservation specialists to expand and integrate present preservation work.
- To promote participation of all disciplines and encourage support by involved and interested academic and professional organizations.
- To encourage technical and other research on topics of importance to the preservation effort.
- To establish a system to gather and analyze information about all aspects of preservation activity.
- To ensure that access to preserved materials is efficient and supportive of research and scholarship.
- To build and maintain effective communication with key organizations and to promote and encourage the institutional adoption of sound preservation policies and practices.
- To do any and all lawful acts that may be necessary, useful, suitable, or proper for the furtherance of accomplishment of the purposes of the Commission.

In more informal language, the Commission has defined its mission as the advancement of the preservation and access agenda through coordination, advocacy and exploration of issues rather than through direct operation of programs. The Commission serves chiefly as a catalytic agent, a broker, a convener of interested parties, and an identifier of salient problems initially in the field of book and journal preservation, but increasingly expanding into the issues surrounding electronic format. Our purpose is to work primarily through existing institutions with the flexibility to develop initiatives both to shape and to respond to the evolving objectives of the national and international preservation and access agenda. Since the Commission has decided to remain a small organization, major emphasis is on judicious choice of priorities and the development of catalytic strategies with the most potential to effect change. Essential strategies have included the identification of the appropriate Commission niche; the elimination of redundancy with other organizations; coordination of fragmented activities; identification of major issues and problems; exploration, analysis and dissemination of results of technology applications and concentration on the national and international arenas.

The Commission serves chiefly as a catalytic agent, a broker, a convener of interested parties, and an identifier of salient problems initially in the field of book and journal preservation, but increasingly expanding into the issues surrounding electronic format.

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Major initiatives introduced during the past five years to carry out the purposes of the Commission include the following:

- The Brittle Books program, now institutionalized in the National Endowment for the Humanities' Division of Preservation and Access
- Scholarly involvement with a variety of disciplines through scholarly advisory committees and task forces
- Communications and outreach with a monthly newsletter; a publications series; the brokering of articles and other information in journals, books, newspapers, and television programs; and the coordination of exhibits at conferences, libraries and archives
- International activities to ensure the compatible exchange of machine-readable bibliographic records of preservation microforms, development of cooperative filming projects, and sharing of information to eliminate duplicate activity
- Contracting for specific research and demonstration projects in support of microfilming improvements
- Research and demonstration projects in the application of digital technologies to the preservation of brittle books, images and manuscript collections
- Investigation into the copyright requirements for the microfilm preservation of brittle books
- Exploration of both short-term and long-term educational needs for a vastly enhanced national preservation program
- Development of plans for a central collection of microforms to provide convenient, cost-effective access on a national scale
- Development of a collaborative, long-range science research agenda to address institutional preservation needs

As a result of these activities in concert with others, visibility for the preservation challenge is expanding, federal funding for the reformatting of brittle books continues at a steady level, a focused research agenda for preservation and conservation is evolving, and there is an explosion of interest and exploration in the application of digital technologies to the preservation of brittle books, photograph collections and other nonprint materials. In addition to the changing landscape stimulated by Commission and related activities, a variety of external forces continues to influence our agenda for the future. The rapid expansion of network capacities, the emergence of more sophisticated imaging technologies, the decline in electronic storage costs, and the unprecedented financial stringency in higher education have increased the urgency for a faster transition to electronic generation, storage, dissemination and use of scholarly information resources. Perhaps the most important implication of all these changes for the Commission's future agenda is the shift of emphasis from **preservation of knowledge originally issued in print form** to the **preservation of access to recorded knowledge in all formats as far into the future as possible.**

How do these changes affect the future agenda of the Commission? If the Commission's primary role is to serve as a change agent, our program directions must encompass a continually evolving agenda including both current activities and future directions. It will be important not to discontinue Commission programs prematurely as we move into new areas.

In addition to the changing landscape stimulated by Commission and related activities, a variety of external forces continues to influence our agenda for the future.

For example, the Commission should maintain an active watching brief over federal support for brittle book preservation. Of equal concern is the implication for paper longevity of legislative mandates for the use of recycled paper. Because libraries and archives will probably be managing hybrid systems for a long transition period, given the nature of technological invention and social change, attention will need to be paid to both analog and digital technologies for some time to come.

PROGRAM DIRECTIONS

The next significant step for our nation's libraries and archives is an affordable and orderly transition into the digital library of the future in order to realize the extraordinary potential and value of increased access to information resources. It is a transition all information repositories — large and small, public and private — must make in an environment of increasing demand and serious financial constraints. It will not be a brief or sudden transition. The high initial costs often serve to paralyze initiative, if viewed only in the short term and without thoughtful comparison with the rapidly escalating costs of traditional library storage and services. Digital information systems require collaborative design and continuing maintenance to realize their potential financial, intellectual and social benefits for instruction, research and scholarship. It is neither cost-

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Patricia Battin - President
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Sonny Koerner - Managing Editor

effective nor intellectually beneficial to build and operate a stand-alone digital library. The capacity to reduce costs and expand access in the long term is directly dependent upon our ability to create and maintain a national and international collaborative support structure.

An important corollary to the potential of the digital library is of course the inherent short life cycles of digital media, hardware and software. Preservation of access to digitally recorded information will require a very different conceptual approach than preservation of the medium itself, the analog strategy.

The transition to the digital library will in all probability follow the pattern of past technological shifts — initial introduction of the new technology into the traditionally managed organization, a period of apparent integration, followed by what appears to be a sudden eruption of chaos and the final recognition that managing new technology requires a restructuring of the organization. In this new environment it seems appropriate that the Commission continue its flexible, ad hoc agenda-setting strategy within defined broad program outlines accompanied by the annual review of priorities, deletions and additions. The list below enumerates the recommended directions for the next few years.

The next significant step for our nation's libraries and archives is an affordable and orderly transition into the digital library of the future in order to realize the extraordinary potential and value of increased access to information resources.

Executive Capacity

One of the most important roles of the Commission and the hardest to define and make tangible is its advocacy capacity — to maintain visibility of urgent issues and to catalyze productive focused action. Changing a well-entrenched paradigm requires frequent and public articulation of the new mind set required in many arenas. The specific program directions listed below depend upon the capacity to analyze the changes, seize the initiative in a multitude of seemingly small impasses and leverage the results into a groundswell of change. The stature and influence of Commission board members, the broad range of sponsors, the flexibility for catalytic action, and the capacity to serve as an honest broker unhampered by a special interest membership are important factors in the Commission's capacity for creative responses on a global scale. Its neutral status enables it to serve as the point organization for international preservation activities by providing a single, focused contact to alleviate the frustration of finding the appropriate entree into large bureaucratic organizations. Some specific activities enabled by the executive capacity include the following:

- Continuing Congressional support through staff briefings, annual testimony and serving as an information resource
- Microfilm audit pilot project to establish practice of biennial audits
- Investigation and publication of inconsistencies in guidelines issued by various funding agencies
- Educational meetings for funding agencies
- Informal liaison to broad range of constituencies
- Ad hoc committees and task forces to respond to specific concerns, e.g., Mid-sized Research Libraries Committee, College Libraries Committee, Preservation Education Task Force, and the Preservation Managers Council

In addition, the Commission will need to find its particular niche in exploring and resolving a larger set of issues, relevant to the broader information community, accompanying the transition to the digital library. Since many organizations are working on these issues from a variety of interests and perspectives, the Commission's role as a convener and catalyst could be useful to assist in the articulation of the issues, to support pilot projects and to commission timely publications. The three areas listed below represent important opportunities for collaborative initiatives with the relevant organizations. Activities in these areas are complex and distributed among a variety of special interest groups. We need to acquaint ourselves further with current activities in order to identify an effective role for the Commission. Our involvement may range from a watching brief to an independent initiative.

Copyright. The issues of intellectual property in the digital environment require a reconceptualized approach to our traditional copyright principles if we are to maintain a productive balance between stimulation of individual creativity and broad public access.

Standards. Standards for digital hardware, software and media are essential, but the processes for setting them, for analyzing their appropriateness and for their productive use are fundamentally different from the processes we employed in the analog world. It is critically important that we recognize and rethink the implications of those differences. With the broad range of activities and agencies already involved in standards, the Commission could consider the development of a coordinated progress report on standards activities to develop a priority list of those most essential for preservation and access goals.

Electronic Archives. The management of digital archives requires archivists to consider three major issues: 1) the digitizing of existing paper-based materials; 2) records created in electronic form that do not and cannot exist on paper; and 3) the primary distribution of documents in digitized form. Each of these developments will require study to determine the appropriate policies and practices for preservation and access. Although there are many similarities to digital library collections, archival practices, policies and contents are sufficiently different to warrant special study.

Technology Initiative

The Commission can play an important role in catalyzing and supporting the transition to the digital library by continuing and extending its explorations into the use of digital technology for the preservation of deteriorating research resources. The advantages for a preservation thrust are several:

■ Deteriorating documents represent culturally important but less heavily used research resources which must be conserved, reformatted or permitted to decay: intervention is justified and can occur on an experimental basis. Nonprint analog materials, such as videotapes, videodiscs and audio tapes, also pose major preservation problems.

■ The conduct of coordinated pilot projects to apply digital technologies to endangered materials will provide important and essential information to help resolve uncertainties in the transition to digital information services before undertaking an initial, possibly disruptive and irrevocable transition. In addition, the preservation context permits us to size the problem in a manner that provides a conceptual focus, reasonably controlled expenditures, and valuable management planning information. These projects will cover a variety of issues:

■ Costs of storage, refreshing, dissemination and use

■ Infrastructure costs: hardware, software and network capacities, availability and compatibility

■ Management issues: archiving, human resources, refreshing of short life cycles of hardware and software

■ Storage costs trade-off: individual library buildings vs. collaborative databases

■ Financial strategies for managing digital information

The Commission can play an important role in catalyzing and supporting the transition to the digital library by continuing and extending its explorations into the use of digital technology for the preservation of deteriorating research resources.

Specific Activities:

■ An hour-long film exploring the characteristics of electronic information, including the phenomena of brief life cycles, unceasing changes in hardware and software access systems, the need for new systems of indexing and analysis, costs, copyright and ownership issues and equity of access to information

■ A public policy study to develop a useful vision of the organizational structure for efficient management and provision of electronic information services in higher education, to consider implementation processes for transforming our traditional organizations and to articulate the policy issues to be considered and resolved to stimulate constructive action. The study would include several symposia supported by staff research and position papers.

■ Continuing support of a preservation digital consortium to explore the application of digital technologies for preserving brittle books, documents and other deteriorating analog media. These explorations would also investigate the potential for collaborative support of digital information services, seek to determine at what point in the process that collaboration must take place and put into effect the kind of interinstitutional mechanisms needed to integrate that process into local operations. The activities of the digital preservation consortium serve several important purposes: 1) collection of valuable information on the application of digital technologies to the preservation of deteriorating print and nonprint research resources; 2) provision of important insights into the management of digital information; and 3) contribution to the total corpus of scholarly materials available in digital form.

Science Research Initiative

A necessary component of a comprehensive preservation program is a science research agenda to address critical technical issues faced by the colleges, universities and archives that are responsible for large, culturally important collections. The Commission's science research initiative began in October 1989 at the request of several national library committees interested in collaborating on the development of research priorities. The Commission worked with a group of four scientists to develop an educational workshop for a group of sixteen preservation administrators. This initial seminar was followed by an interim one-day planning session and a second intensive workshop.

The general theme for the science research initiative has been an emphasis on extending the useful life of paper, film and magnetic media through better environment and storage. Projects are being designed to provide new techniques and technologies to manage chemical deterioration in the nation's working collections and to extend their useful life. In addition to developing consensus on priorities for research, the process has strengthened professional relationships among the group and provided a productive learning environment for honing policy formulation, priority-setting and decision-making skills

Specific Activities:

■ Management of the six projects developed in the first two workshops

■ Creation and dissemination of a report on the initiative's accomplishments

■ Participation in the development of standards and practices that are related to the results of the research projects

■ Promotion of the distribution and use of management tools created by the project

Scholarly Involvement Initiative

The increasing use of digital technologies for preserving the content of brittle books, journals, photographic collections, and other nonprint resources makes the involvement of scholars in the process more essential than ever. Because the traditional information services of research libraries were limited largely to books and journals, we have not developed a comprehensive understanding of how researchers would use either unbundled or differently bundled information resources across the disciplines. We have many mythologies but few facts. The ability of research libraries to provide customized information services is going to require a much more informed knowledge of how scholarly resources are used, which formats are appropriate to which disciplinary inquiries, and which data are needed to assess intellectual requirements versus costs. An active collaboration with scholars is crucial since the availability of information resources and services can greatly stimulate or inhibit the directions of scholarly research. The issue is not what the technology can provide, but what the institution (or the individual) can afford without compromising the intellectual nature of the research. We already have found in our preliminary investigations with the scholarly advisory committees that once scholars are apprised of the relative costs, they are quite willing to scale back their original requirements superficially based on technological potential alone.

Specific Activities:

- Expansion of scholarly advisory committees into the social sciences and sciences with particular emphasis on exploring technology issues as well as selection strategies
- Focused outreach effort to encourage and support faculty involvement on individual campuses, at professional meetings, and through professional journals.

The increasing use of digital technologies for preserving the content of brittle books, journals, photographic collections, and other nonprint resources makes the involvement of scholars in the process more essential than ever.

International Initiative

The international project has expanded rapidly beyond its modest beginning to explore the feasibility of a compatible, affordable, bibliographic database capacity for preservation microfilms on an international scale. The Commission's principal objective in setting priorities for international projects is global accessibility to scholarly resources. Although the preservation of books, documents and manuscripts is a major concern around the world, the Commission's unique capability for flexible response to a wide range of needs makes its contribution extraordinarily valuable. Some countries will be cooperating with the United States in exploring the issues surrounding digital technologies while other countries are faced with almost insuperable obstacles in preserving the printed heritage of the past. The challenge for the future will be maintaining a coordinated focus and setting affordable priorities in order to achieve the greatest benefit from limited resources.

Specific Activities:

- Maintenance of executive capacity
- Continuing collaboration with the European Commission on Preservation and Access
- Continued participation in the European Community's project to develop and maintain a European Register of Microform Masters
- Catalytic support for microfilming and bibliographic access projects in selected Eastern European and Central American countries
- Educational opportunities for Eastern European and Central American librarians
- Cooperation with organizations involved with preservation activities in China, Japan, Australia and Southeast Asia
- Exchange and dissemination of relevant publications on an international scale
- Coordination and encouragement of joint cooperative projects between U.S. and foreign libraries and archives

Communications Initiative

Because all citizens and institutions are affected by how we preserve and provide access to knowledge, the original plans for the Commission called for a communications program that would substantially heighten the visibility of the preservation-and-access agenda beyond the immediate library community and would promote durable support for our work and goals. The strategy that has evolved over the past five years involves developing accurate, timely and dependable information that will contribute to a broad-based understanding of and support for preservation/access initiatives, using the leverage of existing communicating channels and media services to distribute that information efficiently.

The development of this communication element has been steadily evolutionary, advancing in numbers and in breadth of content in support of our major programmatic areas. The segmented mailing list of 1,600 contacts, with over 300 from outside the U.S., comprises university provosts and presidents, faculty and scholars, state and regional cooperatives, directors of international libraries, businesses and industries, library school deans and preservation and archives administrators.

The effectiveness of the communications program over the past five years is based primarily on its ability to promote a clear, visionary yet sensible preservation-and-access agenda to many previously uncommitted constituencies and to engage their interest and support for exploratory projects. The charge for the future is to strengthen and expand the visibility and awareness of preservation needs

and to continue developmental efforts to find cooperative solutions to common problems.

Specific Activities:

- Continuation of newsletter and publication series
- Expansion of mailing list to reach more individual scholars, librarians and technology specialists, the international community beyond national libraries, and institutions of higher education
- Expanded targeted publications and exhibit schedule for scholarly disciplines, policy-makers, publishers and other professional organizations
- Use of the Internet and other new technologies to enhance access to Commission information

Central Collection

A recent informal survey by the Commission's Preservation Managers Council documented the inadequacy of the existing acquisitions and interlibrary loan systems to provide timely access to preservation microforms. The establishment of a central collection of print masters dedicated to rapid, efficient and cost-effective retrieval is essential to provide access to the growing body of preservation microfilms. Such a collection could also serve as a precursor to the organization and management of dedicated electronic retrieval services.

Specific Activities:

- Serve as honest broker to establish central collection
- Conduct necessary studies to determine costs, set rates, and develop economic formulas for funding a service for the "public good"

Education Initiative

The heightened interest in preservation and access issues, the general concern that new information technologies present a major challenge to our traditional library education curricula, and the need for more preservation professionals have stimulated a continuing interest in defining educational programs for current and future human resources needs. The broader definition of preservation as access to recorded information as far into the future as possible implies a fundamental change in our traditional training in specific skills for the conservation of paper artifacts. Many preservation managers have noted the need for managerial skills such as long-range planning, fiscal management, problem-solving and collaborative strategies. Although these requirements were initially voiced as specific to preservation management, it is now recognized that they apply to all facets of librarianship. The Commission could play an important role in stimulating, based on the perceived needs of preservation managers, renewed and productive curriculum reform for library education.

Specific Activities:

- Seminar for deans to explore the current and future needs of librarians charged with providing continuing access to scholarly information recorded on a variety of media with the objective of reconceptualizing library school curricula

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DEVELOPING A EUROPEAN COMMISSION ON PRESERVATION AND ACCESS

One outcome of the Commission's June 1993 international scholars conference, *Preserving the Intellectual Heritage*, was a unanimous vote to create a European commission on preservation and access. The 23 scholars from 11 western European countries and the United States at the conference recommended that the new commission, as a counterpart to the U.S. Commission on Preservation and Access, should be "an independent body that is endorsed by a wide range of existing cultural institutions and that is materially supported by two or three of them in the early stages of its development." The scholars identified emerging issues for further exploration by the new commission and others as: how to bring awareness of preservation problems to the attention of library users and scholars, how to involve scholars with librarians and other custodians in the difficult decisions about preservation priorities, and how to identify and allocate funding and resources for preservation activities. For a complete report of that event, see *Preserving the Intellectual Heritage: A Report of The Bellagio Conference, June 7-10, 1993*, available from the Commission for $10.00, prepayment required.

Current efforts to establish the European commission are being funded in part by a grant from the Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation. Acting upon specific recommendations adopted at the conference, a steering committee has appointed a board of directors, which is scheduled for its initial meeting in Amsterdam in late March. UNESCO has invited board members to a meeting to discuss ways to cooperate, and interest in collaboration also has been expressed by the Commission of the European Communities and the European Cultural Foundation.

European commission board members as of February 1994 are: *Universities* — Professor Michel Jouve, Université Michel de Montaigne-Bordeaux III; Professor Jack Meadows, Loughborough University; Professor Hinrich Seidel, Universität Hannover. *Academies and learned societies* — Professor Pieter Drenth, Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences; Sir Anthony Kenny, British Library. *Libraries* — Mrs. Fernanda Maria Campos, National Library of Portugal; Professor Klaus-Dieter Lehmann, Die Deutsche Bibliothek; Professor Adam Manikowski, National Library of Poland. *Archives* — Professor Eric Ketelaar, Netherlands State Archives Department; Professor Geoffrey Martin, University of Essex. Appointments from the publishing and other areas are pending. Serving as secretary to the board is Ms. Alison de Puymège, Deputy Secretary General, Standing Conference of Rectors, Presidents and Vice-Chancellors of the European Universities (CRE). Hans Rütimann serves as an *ex officio* member.

PHOTO IMAGES EXHIBITED AT AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Digitized images of 300 photographs from the special collections of the University of Southern California (USC) were demonstrated at the Commission exhibit during the annual meeting of the American Historical Association (AHA) in San Francisco January 6-9, 1994. Over 100 professors, scholars, curators and archivists viewed and manipulated photo images using a Photo-CD player and a 27" monitor provided by Eastman Kodak. The donated equipment will become a regular part of the Commission's exhibits at scholarly and publishing conferences over the next 18 months.

USC is a repository for a vast collection of black-and-white historical photographs of southern California and the American Southwest. The images used for the AHA demonstration were selected from the Hearst and Whittington Collections and include stock photographs documenting the Los Angeles area; coverage of street and city views; and images of Hollywood environs and people. USC is preserving the photographs as part of work of the Kodak Library Image Consortium (KLIC), formed in 1992 by USC, Eastman Kodak, Cornell University, and the Commission. The

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PILOT TEST LIBRARIES REPORT ON MICROFILM AUDIT

Libraries at Harvard, Yale, and Ohio State Universities participated in a pilot test of an audit process in late 1992 and early 1993 to help develop benchmarks and procedures for the periodic inspection of the quality of microfilm produced under the brittle books program of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Division of Preservation and Access. (See the March and August 1993 newsletters for more background.) The following report on that pilot test and subsequent activities was prepared by Wesley Boomgaarden, Preservation Officer at Ohio State, on behalf of the three participants.

The Commission is working to establish a regular audit of preservation microfilms produced under the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) brittle books program which will include qualified third party assessment. Such an audit process can help assure that public funds are being spent for high quality preservation products.

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The Commission on Preservation and Access was established in 1986 to foster and support collaboration among libraries and allied organizations in order to ensure the preservation of the published and documentary record in all formats and to provide enhanced access to scholarly information.

The newsletter reports on cooperative national and international activities and is directed to university administrators, scholars, and faculty; preservation specialist and managers; and members of consortia, governmental bodies, and other groups sharing in the Commission's goals. The newsletter is not copyrighted. Its duplication is encouraged.

Patricia Battin - President
Maxine K. Sitts - Program Officer, Editor
Sonny Koerner - Managing Editor

In the pilot test, one percent of the master negatives created by Harvard, Yale, and Ohio State with Federal funds were examined in first- and third-generation copies by MSTC, Inc., a suburban Washington, DC, company specializing in such film examination. The examination included film base, leader, density, resolution, and indications of physical deterioration (dirt, mold, scratches, etc.). The audit process was organized and funded by the Commission. A follow-up meeting of these participants and other specialists was held in early November, where plans for a nationwide-scale audit were discussed. At the November meeting, participants indicated in positive terms the value of the pilot audit to their preservation microfilming operations.

According to Paul Conway, Head, Preservation Department, Yale University, the audit process was especially useful for helping the institution learn more about preservation of large bodies of material. At Ohio State, the audit found a number of improvements that needed to be made to microfilm processing and generated discussions that resulted in improvements in understanding by the filmer and the library, notably in adjusting film density levels. At Harvard, several concrete steps were taken as a result of the audit, including: additional education of camera operators, readjustment of cameras, increased attention to resolution charts, changes in frequency of cleaning lenses, and considerations of new equipment and changes in reduction ratios.

Participants in the pilot test suggested that the following characteristics of master microforms be considered for an ongoing national film audit:

- The quality of the film manufacture
- The quality of the image
- The quality and permanence of the processing
- The quality and completeness of the bibliographic entity, including bibliographic control
- The quality of the storage environment

The Commission is working with several preservation administrators to develop a draft microfilm data collection procedure.

"RESCUING OUR HERITAGE" - PRESERVATION IN THE SOUTHWEST

In cooperation with the Commission, Southern Methodist University (SMU) held a regional symposium on preservation in Spring 1993. The final report of that event, including a summary of the presentations of keynote speakers, is now available as a special edition of the Central University Libraries faculty newsletter *The Linc* and on the SMU Gopher on the Internet. The symposium's target audience was budgetary decision makers, in particular college and university presidents and provosts, state legislators, and directors of state libraries and archives. In addition, library directors and officers in state and regional library and archives organizations were invited.

Speakers included Commission board president Billy E. Frye, Interim President and Provost, Emory University, and Commission board member David B. Gracy II, Gov. Bill Daniel Professor of Archival Enterprise, University of Texas at Austin.

Rescuing Our Heritage Symposium Report by Dr. Kenneth Lavender, Curator, Rare Book and Texana Collections, University of North Texas Libraries, Denton, and Thomas F.R. Clareson, Preservation Service Manager, AMIGOS Bibliographic Council, Dallas, is available from Maureen Pastine, Central University Librarian, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX 75275-0135.

PERCEIVED INTERFACE AND OUTPUT REQUIREMENTS OF POTENTIAL USERS OF AN ELECTRONIC IMAGE DATABASE SYSTEM

Prepared by
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under the direction of
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and Victoria Steele, Head, Special Collections.

As a member of the Digital Preservation Consortium, the University Libraries at the University of Southern California are planning a prototype image database which will archive and have the capacity to electronically deliver approximately 3,000 historical black and white photographic images. This report on user perceptions of system interface and output requirements was submitted to the Commission as one aspect of a more comprehensive interim report on this project.

The University of Southern California (USC) is a repository for a vast collection of black-and-white historical photographs of southern California and the American Southwest. These include the Hearst Collection (1.2 million images) and the Whittington Collection (500,000), as well as a number of smaller but significant holdings. The subject content of these collections is extensive and varied ranging from stock photographs documenting the Los Angeles area; images showing the growth of important municipal enterprises such as ground transportation systems, aviation and shipping; coverage of street and city views; images of Hollywood — its environs and people, to whole collections of prominent local photographers whose subject focus included Los Angeles, California Missions, Southwestern Indians, and turn-of-the-century Nevada, Arizona, and California.

The planning process will result in a determination of appropriate system technologies (scanning, storage, network delivery and output), legal protection (copyright restrictions and fair use), budgetary considerations, and user interface. This report addresses issues including:

- The usefulness of an image database, for either research or instructional purposes, to a given academic discipline.
- Expectations and requirements relating to how photographs in an electronic database should be indexed for search purposes.
- The degree of need for the capacity to "browse" multiple images simultaneously.
- Approximate level of required image resolution.
- Desired location and form of hardcopy output.

Although this report does not specifically address matters of system hardware, some technological points will be considered where critical to the questions listed above. This report is a distillation of comments made by selected faculty at three focus group meetings held at Doheny Memorial Library during the last ten days of April 1993. Participants were selected based upon potential interest in an electronic image delivery system. That interest was determined either by general reputation or from research concerns as indicated in the University of Southern California's 1992 Experts Directory. Faculty were also selected with some attention to academic discipline. As a result, the fifty invitees were approximately equally divided according to appointment in the physical sciences, social sciences and the humanities.

Comments were also solicited by three other means: open ended questionnaire (designed only for those who were unable to attend the focus groups), personal interview and observations offered subsequent to a presentation of the project overview on May 14. The presentation was attended by approximately 25 people, primarily interested library staff.

There are several limitations to this method of inquiry. First, respondents were not randomly selected. Although identification of individuals most likely to make use of an image delivery system is a rational approach, it inevitably introduces bias into the collective response (a "pro-innovation" bias, for example). Second, respondents were not severely constrained by legal, budgetary or technological considerations. While some real-world parameters were introduced at the focus group meetings, subjects were generally allowed to express preferences for an idealized system. Finally, it should be kept in mind that this interim report is based on a relatively limited number of respondents (approximately 20 actually contributed substantive comments), which at this point includes no students.

FINDINGS AND ANALYSIS

Image Database Usefulness

All respondents endorsed the potential benefit of a campus wide image delivery system. Subjects agreed that the photographic holdings of the university were grossly underutilized. This was attributed to lack of awareness, lack of accessibility and awkwardness of existing search techniques (although that difficulty will be mitigated by the recent cataloging of some of the collections).

Respondents agreed that an electronic image database would be useful for various purposes. Faculty tended to emphasize the potential for purposes of research, instruction and individual student projects. Library staff tended to focus on the benefits of preservation and access. All were concerned with issues of cataloging.

Usefulness revolved around convenience of access, speed of access, and user control.

The perceived usefulness of an image database system revolved around three primary considerations: convenience of access, speed of access, and user control. Convenience may be especially salient as USC's photographic holdings are presently located beyond easy walking distance from campus. Regardless of physical location, subjects perceived a clear advantage to rapid on-line access of photographs cataloged at the item level. Finally, although several subjects were highly complimentary of the collection curator, most agreed that individual control of a search offered by an on-line system would be highly advantageous to much of their work (again qualified by indexing and browsing options, discussed below).

General endorsement of digital image technology was not without one important qualification: no one anticipates that electronically delivered images (or text) can completely replace the occasional use of primary documents. As one professor put it: "We still go to see the original art work, the original building. The original material is important." Also, "There is the matter of serendipity, or oversight, or coincidence, or human error. There is always the possibility of discovering something that fell through the cracks." Several agreed that there is "something about" the aura of an original document — even an original photographic print. Finally, faculty emphasized the importance of exposing students to original sources. Such statements, however, were made as asides — as parenthetical tribute to primary archives before moving on to the more intriguing questions surrounding the technology at issue.

No one anticipates that electronically delivered images can completely replace primary documents.

Some of those questions ranged afield of the photographic collection under consideration. Professors of music, geography and history found the possibility of digitizing various musical scores, maps and historical documents of great potential benefit to their respective fields. These discussions were eventually steered back to photographic images, which usually resulted in deliberation of the primary concern: how images were to be cataloged, indexed and searched.

Indexing and Searching

Participants in this study were vitally concerned both with issues of individual item indexing and total system flexibility. Regarding item description the following categories were mentioned: source, biographical names, geographic location, and date. Whenever captioned, a journalism professor pointed out, full-text retrieval by caption should be available. Several respondents expressed a need for technical descriptors, such as original image size, quality, whether black & white or color, and copyright information. One subject desired information on time of day the photo was taken (if deducible) and type of illumination used. Another suggested that the system keep track of, and be able to report, the number of times an individual image was accessed.

More difficult was the problem of determining keyword descriptors to designate the subject content of a photograph. While there have been some tentative steps towards searching an image database using an iconic interface (including the Getty's Art History Information Project and Photodex, a commercial firm out of Durango, CO), "language is still the most precise search and retrieval tool we have" (Michael Ester, director of the Getty's AHIP). Photodex claims to have developed an extremely sophisticated keyword search engine based on artificial intelligence algorithms and "fuzzy logic" programming, but the technology is proprietary.

In addition to item indexing there is the issue of searching style. Without exception, respondents expressed a need for a system capable of accommodating both "hunts" for a specific image and more general "browsing" technique for photos that meet more relaxed search criteria. Those who had performed image-based research almost invariably began with broad categories. This initial phase was described as a "limbering up period" while the researcher acquired a better feel for what was sought and how it might be indexed or described by the system. As one professor put it, "this stage of the search process is a matter of collecting the points, much like note cards scattered all over." Researchers then proceed to narrow the field to smaller subsets of material, as they "winnow out" extraneous images. In this connection words like "system resilience," "subsets," and "flexibility" were mentioned repeatedly. These were the types of qualities, it was pointed out, that a storage medium like microfilm lacks.

Not surprisingly the most difficult issues surrounding search criteria were those involving what was variously

described as the "look" or "tone" or "feel" of a photograph. While this is an unlikely concern in the physical sciences it arose frequently in the domains of social science and the humanities. One participant had a need to search for "city night views," another was interested in "1950's sci-fi imagery, a kind of iconographic "look." Another researcher once searched for 1930's images of "really seedy hotels and crummy bars"— unlikely formal descriptors in even the most sophisticated system.

Interesting discussions ensued in each focus group on the idea of providing a user-defined field with each to allow system users to elaborate on image descriptors. There was a clearly perceived willingness on the part of these users to add their own descriptive content to the image cataloging record. While such capability implies considerable administrative and authentication issues, it does provide an interesting, "low-cost" method of enhancing the descriptive content of the indexing records.

Respondents expressed a need for a system for both "hunts" and "browsing."

The importance of providing adequate indexing tools for searching the image database was consistently stressed by all the participants in the focus group meetings. Success of a digital image database will be dependent of easy-to-use, yet content rich indexing tools.

Browsing

The universally perceived importance of database browsing capability was acknowledged above. This section is concerned primarily with comments related to multiple-image display. Briefly stated, every respondent expressed a strong desire for the simultaneous screen display of multiple images. There was also unanimous agreement that the exact nature of this display involved a complex trade off between number of concurrent images, screen size and potential image resolution. Beyond this, general agreement breaks down somewhat, depending upon how a particular individual tends to browse. Several respondents expressed a preference for the capability of displaying a maximum number of discernible images on screen at a time—as many as 30. "I may need to pull up 500 images related to a particular subject, and be able to see a whole array of them, or flip through them like pages of a book," said one. This seemed especially true if one was searching for an image with a certain "look" or "feel."

Respondents wanted maximum resolution in minimal time.

Others were equally certain they would have no need to display more than a few images at a time. A professor from fine arts stated that much of her research involves high resolution paired-comparisons. A geographer with a research interest in urban history expressed a preference for no more than four images displayed at a time. He explained, "I always need detail. If the screen displayed more than four images, I would just ask for blow-ups, whereas with four I would probably get the resolution I required in the first place." "That first read is important," he continued, "if I reject an image at that time, I may never go back."

Again, these opinions are intertwined with considerations of screen size and image resolution. Screen size is budget-dependent, resolution is somewhat more variable.

Resolution

A technical discussion of image resolution is beyond the scope of this report. However, some basic facts and assumptions were set forth at the various user meetings in order to establish a foundation for discussion. Digital scanners are now capable of capturing a photographic image at resolutions equal to the grain of the print or negative emulsion. There are tradeoffs: scanning at extremely high resolutions is more costly in terms of time, money and computer storage space. Likewise, as resolution increases, so does the time of transmission over a network. As images approach photo-realistic resolution, human ability to discern slight degradations of image quality decreases.

Perhaps predictably, respondents wanted maximum resolution in minimal time, and low resolution even faster. Several participants had experienced the slow process of retrieving an image by standard vertical fill-in, which paints an image down the screen line-by-line. A few had sat through the long reception times of a high-resolution image over the Internet. These methods were declared unacceptable by those who had experienced them.

There is, however, a technology called "progressive transmission" which strikes a precise balance between image transmission speed and resolution. Progressive transmission sends the entire image, almost instantaneously, at extremely low resolution upon demand. Within two seconds the user receives a full-screen image of recognizable detail. Within 15 seconds the image fills in to moderate resolution. The process continues until maximum resolution is reached, usually between one and two minutes.

The user response to this solution, presented by the project's technical coordinator, was consistent approval. As long as the image became recognizable within a few seconds, it could either be rejected or allowed to continue "filling itself in." It was expected that the image could be captured at any stage during the transmission. If maximum resolution was desired, a ninety-second wait was not perceived as too burdensome.

Output

The question of system outputs related both to terminal location and hardcopy output. Although it is envisioned that image-delivery will eventually be campus-wide, it is likely that the initial delivery will be to high-capacity workstations in selected locations. There was no serious objection to this

design, especially if the terminals delivered the high resolution imagery of which they will be technically capable.

There were three primary questions related to hardcopy system output: a) the ratio of instructional needs to research demands, b) the issue of cost recovery, and c) the perceived priority of output types ("Xerox" quality, slides, high resolution grayscale prints, downloaded files, including Photo CD output).

The perceived use of the system for instructional rather than research purposes varied greatly from one professor to another. For those who viewed the technology primarily as a means of improved instruction, slide output was a priority, followed by medium resolution photocopy quality. Research demands dictated high resolution prints. Those in the fine arts, particularly, expressed a strong interest in downloadable graphic files. All respondents indicated a willingness to pay for hardcopy output on a cost-recovery basis. There was an expressed willingness to pay standard rates for any image used in a publication.

Several groups became particularly animated when discussion ranged to possibilities of transmitting entire sets of selected images directly into the classroom teaching environment. While such extensions of this technology is a possibility, it was emphasized that creation of university wide electronic classrooms is not within the compass of this project.

The USC project team has also been working extensively with Kodak's Photo CD technology. Several Photo CD image databases have already been created and incorporated into the instructions program (public access Photo CD reading stations have been installed in the Architecture and Fine Arts Library and in the Doheny Reference Center; students have been assigned Photo CD "readings"). This has generated considerable discussion on the advantages of such a "portable" image database "subset" medium. Incorporation of a Photo CD output mechanism from the networked image server has been identified as an important output requirement. The ease of use and portability of this medium was seen as an important step in making digitized images available for classroom use.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Within the limitations of this study outlined at the outset, the following conclusions and recommendations can be drawn:

1. Although digital archiving and retrieval is not viewed as a complete substitute for original document research, the technology is generally welcomed for its perceived advantages in convenience and speed of access, and individual user control.

2. While certain indexing criteria for photographs can be sharply defined, one of the most important, content, remains problematic. Some preliminary attempts at "iconic search procedures" are being made in the marketplace, but language remains the most precise descriptor of images.

3. Image database searches frequently begin with broad categories which the user then narrows as the search continues. An electronic image-delivery system should be flexible enough to accommodate both a broad (low resolution) search as well as a narrow (generally higher resolution) image request.

4. One short-term solution to the difficulty of providing exhaustive keyword descriptors to photographic images is to allow for an associated user-input field. Although difficult to administer and monitor, several potential users liked the idea.

5. A simultaneous multi-image display capability is essential to users. To the extent technically feasible, this feature should offer maximum flexibility.

6. Flexibility should also be built into the system at the intersection of image transmission resolution and delivery speed. The proposed technology of progressive transmission, which offers a trade-off between speed and resolution, was well received by potential system users.

7. Prior to campus-wide image delivery, potential users would be willing to go to certain designated locations with high-end work station terminals to interface the system. "Hardcopy" and "portable" output needs varied among professors according to emphases on research, teaching, or the creative arts.

8. Finally, at various stages in the search and retrieval process, potential users expressed a desire for system ability to save marked subsets of previous image searches.

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ACID-FREE PAPER IN EUROPE AND THE U.S.

New survey findings from Europe indicate that some publishers find acid-free paper no more costly than acid paper, and that their main rationale for adopting acid-free stock is the request of library buyers for permanent paper. The survey was completed in January 1994 by the European Foundation for Library Cooperation/Groupe de Lausanne (EFLC) and the Dutch company Swets & Zeitlinger (see January 1994 newsletter for more background).

Sixty-eight respondents, most of them scientific publishers, from 13 European countries reported they are printing their publications on acid-free paper. Twenty-one are British, a lesser number are German and Dutch, and others are spread throughout France, Belgium, Nordic countries, Austria, Switzerland, Italy, Spain and Ireland. Half of the 68 do not announce by any logo or mention that their publications are printed on permanent paper.

Another 74 publishers from 14 countries reported they do not use acid-free paper, and some of these were unaware of its availability. Most indicated they will consider adopting permanent paper provided there is significant demand and it is not too expensive. The EFLC noted in its press release, "Probably, most of the eighteen-hundred ones [publishers] who did not reply to the survey do not use acid-free paper.... The problem of brittle books falling apart in libraries does not yet seem sufficiently known outside the library world in many countries of continental Europe." More detailed results of the survey and a free copy of *European Directory of Acid-free and Permanent Book Paper* are available from: EFLC, 17, Chemin des Vieux Amis, B-1380 Lasne, Brussels. Belgium.

In other news, Rolf Dahlø of the National Office for Research and Special Libraries, Oslo, Norway, and chairman of the ISO-committee for Physical Keeping of Documents, reports that the final proofs for the new International Paper Standard ISO 9706 are completed and publication is underway. The English version of the document is ISO 9706:1994(E) and the French version is ISO 9706:1994(F). The official publication is expected to be available in early spring of this year.

"This [survey] really shows a lack of awareness of the major problem of brittle books for the preservation of the written cultural heritage in European countries and of the simple way of preventing this problem thanks to the use of permanent paper for printing new books."

— From a letter to the Commission dated January 31, 1994 from Marc Wakkiers, EFLC Secretary

...MEANWHILE, IN THE U.S.

[Adapted from the ALA Washington Newsletter, November 30, 1993]

President Clinton's Executive Order 12873 (October 1993) requiring the use of recycled paper within the federal government makes no mention of permanence considerations or Public Law 101-423 enacted in October 1990 that established a national policy to promote the use of permanent alkaline paper. The new executive order addresses several qualities that may affect paper permanence. The order is detailed and includes enforcement mechanisms, while the earlier law on permanent paper establishes policy, but lacks enforcement mechanisms. Whether a sufficient supply of paper exists that meets both sets of standards — for recycled content and for permanence — is yet to be determined. ALA and several other library and scholarly organizations have recommended that the Executive Order accommodate needs for alkaline permanent paper so that costs for preserving the federal record would be minimized. ALA and other groups are considering courses of action and would welcome input from experts in permanent paper and preservation of library and archival materials. Contact: Carol Henderson, Executive Director Designate, American Library Association, Washington Office, 110 Maryland Avenue, N.E., Suite 101, Washington, D.C. 20002.

SCIENCE RESEARCH PROJECTS AVAILABLE

The Commission's Preservation Science Council (PSC) is widely distributing descriptions of three recommended research projects that will lead to new management tools for libraries and archives, and a fourth project has received funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Division of Preservation and Access. The PSC is composed of 20 preservation administrators and scientists representing a broad sampling of North American research libraries and archives. It has released information on the following projects: **(1) Paper and Book Collections:** use of accelerated aging experiments to yield specific predictions concerning the life expectancy under different temperature and relative humidity (RH) conditions of five types of paper commonly found in libraries and archives; **(2) Magnetic Media:** a review of the status of current research on the longevity and durability of magnetic media, identification of tools useful to librarians and archivists in managing these collections, and identification of research necessary to develop management tools; and **(3) Paper - Lignin:** an assessment of the influences of lignin in a paper on its permanence, including such factors as color changes upon aging and possible deleterious effects upon non-lignin papers coming into

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contact with lignin-containing papers.

The fourth recommended project, to develop the technical information necessary for improving storage practices and enclosures for film collections in libraries and archives, is being undertaken by the Image Permanence Institute (IPI) at Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY, which recently received a $304,625 NEH grant. As described in an IPI press release, the three-year project will look at the ways in which enclosures speed up or slow down the deterioration of acetate film supports and will investigate the effects of enclosures on temperature and RH equilibrium relations. Results will include clear recommendations of the best types of enclosures for minimizing acetate base degradation in microfilm, movie film, and sheet film. Further, the study will furnish a model of how film reacts to the temperature and moisture changes it encounters when it is moved in and out of cold storage, will clarify how much RH fluctuation can safely be permitted in film archives, and will supply missing data that will provide a new approach to improved storage through dynamic, rather than static, set points for temperature and RH.

Final descriptions of the remaining two recommended projects are being developed. These involve a study of microclimate effects on paper and book collections and an investigation into the relative performance of several types of polyvinyl acetate adhesive (PVA) films.

The Commission has sponsored the PSC's work over 2 ½ years first to study, analyze, and set priorities for research possibilities, and then to develop a finite number of manageable projects of primary value. The six projects have the full endorsement of the Commission, which encourages laboratories, research institutions, individual researchers, and funding agencies to consider their undertaking. While the Commission cannot fund the projects directly, it will support submissions of proposals for funding. For more information, contact Program Officer Maxine K. Sitts at the Commission.

Slow Fires versions:

■ English	One-hour VHS in NSTC or PAL	$59.50 plus $10 s/h
	½ Hour VHS in NSTC, PAL or SECAM	$59.50 plus $10 s/h
■ French	One-hour VHS in NSTC or PAL	$59.50 plus $10 s/h
■ Spanish	One-hour VHS in NSTC or PAL	$59.50 plus $10 s/h

Beta cassettes on special order (NSTC or PAL)
¾" cassettes also available in above versions. One-hour is $145, ½ hour $95, each plus $10 s/h.

Available from American Film Foundation, PO Box 2000, Santa Monica, CA 90406.

PHOTO IMAGES EXHIBITED

Continued from page 1

University libraries are planning a prototype image database that will archive and have the capacity to electronically deliver approximately 3,000 historical black-and-white photographic images. The KLIC consortium is exploring ways in which libraries, museums, and other archival repositories might use Photo-CD technology. One of USC's supporting reports, *Perceived Interface and Output Requirements of Potential Users of an Electronic Image Database System*, is included as an insert to this month's newsletter.

Librarians from the University of California at Berkeley, Stanford University, the Research Libraries Group, Inc., and the University of Southern California staffed the exhibit, which was funded by grants from the Gladys Krieble Delmas and H.W. Wilson Foundations. Forty AHA members signed up to be added to the Commission's mailing list.

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The Commission on Preservation and Access

Providing Access To The Accumulated Human Record As Far Into The Future As Possible

Newsletter

NUMBER 66 APRIL 1994

NEW REPORT ON AUTHENTICITY OF PRESERVED ELECTRONIC INFORMATION

A new Commission report, *Intellectual Preservation: Electronic Preservation of the Third Kind*, by Peter S. Graham, discusses the need to assure the integrity and authenticity of information as originally recorded. Preservation of the media and of software technologies will meet only part of preservation requirements if the information content has been corrupted from its original form, whether by accident or design. The need for intellectual preservation arises because the great asset of digital information is also its great liability; the ease with which an identical copy can be made is paralleled by the ease with which a change may undetectably be made.

Graham is Associate University Librarian for Technical and Networked Information Services, Rutgers University. He presents the problem in the form of several questions that confront the user of any electronic document, whether text, hypertext, audio, graphic, numeric, or multimedia information:

- *How can I be sure that what I am viewing is what I want to see?*
- *How do I know that the document I have found is the same one that you used and made reference to in your footnote?*
- *How can I be sure that the document I now use has not been changed since the last time I used it?*
- *To put it most generally: How can a reader be sure that the document being used is the one intended?*

The 8-page report discusses kinds of changes that can occur in the digital environment and potential solutions for authenticating a document, including hashing, the concept of the "widely witnessed event", and digital time-stamping. No matter what approach is used for long-term authentification of electronic information, Graham concludes, it is important that libraries identify some solution that allows scholars, students, readers, publishers and information users to have confidence that their electronic resources are authentic. *Intellectual Preservation: Electronic Preservation of the Third Kind* is being mailed to those on the Commission's mailing lists. Copies are available for $10.00, prepayment required, from the Commission. Commission sponsors receive all publications at no charge.

DPC GOALS SET CONTEXT FOR COLLABORATIVE PRESERVATION

The Commission has published the mission and goals statement of the 11-member Digital Preservation Consortium (DPC) to provide a context for current and future collaborative preservation and access initiatives involving new technologies. The statement was first developed in March 1992, when the DPC consisted of eight universities. Current membership includes University of California, Berkeley; Columbia University; Cornell University; Harvard University; University of Michigan; Pennsylvania State University; Princeton University; Stanford University; University of Southern California; University of Tennessee; and Yale University.

The development of the National Information Infrastructure (NII) and the growing use of the Internet are creating a rapidly-changing environment for collaborative preservation and access. Within this environment, the DPC seeks to advance the use and utility of digital technology for the preservation of and access to library materials by fostering needed infrastructure. In recent meetings, DPC members have discussed in broad terms how academic libraries can contribute within this

Continued on page 2

BOARD MEMBER RECOGNIZED BY APSA

Sidney Verba, Director of the Harvard University Library and Commission board member, has received the James Madison Award from the American Political Science Association (APSA). The award is given triennially to a living American political scientist who has made a distinguished scholarly contribution to political science. It was presented at APSA's 1993 Annual Meeting in Washington, DC.

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evolving landscape. Several areas of possible DPC action are being considered, including:

- increasing the involvement of museums, art galleries, university presses and publishers and others with a stake in digital collections in DPC projects;
- working more closely with vendors to influence standards and open systems; and
- coordinating with campus-wide efforts to develop distributed computing environments.

Preservation and access projects of DPC members will be demonstrated at a series of Commission-sponsored exhibits at scholarly and publishing conferences over the next 18 months. Examples of preserved and digitized materials and access products will be displayed.

The Digital Preservation Consortium Mission and Goals (March 1994, six pages) is being distributed to the Commission's mailing lists. Copies are available for $10.00,* prepayment required, from the Commission. Commission sponsors receive all publications at no charge.

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The Commission on Preservation and Access was established in 1986 to foster and support collaboration among libraries and allied organizations in order to ensure the preservation of the published and documentary record in all formats and to provide enhanced access to scholarly information.

The newsletter reports on cooperative national and international activities and is directed to university administrators, scholars, and faculty; preservation specialist and managers; and members of consortia, governmental bodies, and other groups sharing in the Commission's goals. The newsletter is not copyrighted. Its duplication is encouraged.

Patricia Battin - President
Maxine K. Sitts - Program Officer, Editor
Sonny Koerner - Managing Editor

RLG COMPLETES FIELD TEST OF ARCHIVAL SELECTION TOOL

A field test of a preservation decision-making tool developed by the Task Forces on Archival Selection has concluded that the model is as yet inadequate for making long-term preservation plans. In their report to the Commission in 1993, the task forces voiced the need for "a systematic methodology for developing preservation priorities for archival materials at institutional, inter-institutional, and national levels." (See summary in the April 1993 newsletter.) As one part of their two-year project, the task forces developed a decision model for assessing the preservation needs of archival collections, which the Commission asked the Research Libraries Group (RLG), Inc., to field test.

Staff from 15 RLG institutions conducted the test over a five-month period in 1993. In general, the participants found the tool simple to use but — perhaps because of its simplicity - - inadequate as a decision tool upon which long-term preservation plans for a repository could be made. Many of the participants concluded that the survey did not gather enough specific, detailed, quantifiable information about preservation needs. They noted that in most cases their general feelings about the collections surveyed were confirmed, although in some cases the survey pointed out areas which needed to be assessed in more detail.

Most participants noted that any opportunity to conduct a systematic examination of a repository's collections is of benefit, particularly for institutions that have never conducted surveys or assessments of need. They also felt that the instrument may be of most use as an initial step in the assessment process for an institution that has no existing program to evaluate and prioritize the preservation needs of its collections.

One significant criticism of the instrument was the level of subjectivity inherent in every step of the survey process. The lack of sampling methodology that might have produced quantifiable and statistically reliable data about the state of need of the collection made it difficult to gather information, and even more difficult to determine whether the results might represent anything more than the opinion of the surveyor.

In spite of the lack of endorsement of the instrument in its present condition, participants felt strongly that work on needs assessment tools for archival collections is of paramount importance and should continue. The instrument was seen as a necessary step in the development of a comprehensive program for assessing and prioritizing the preservation needs of archival collections.

Staff in the participating institutions represented a range of experience in archival management and preservation. The field test was conducted under the direction of Laurie Abbott, RLG Member Services Officer (now an independent consultant), who compiled RLG's final report.

The RLG report, ***Finial Report of the Archives Preservation Needs Assessment Field Test***, is available from the Document Supply Center (bl.dsc@rlg.stanford.edu) of the Research Libraries Group, Inc., 1200 Villa Street, Mountain View, CA 94041-1100. The complete task forces report and the decision model are scheduled to be published by the Society of American Archivists.

— Excerpted from Final Report of the Archives Preservation Needs Assessment Field Test, January 1994. Laurie Abbott, Research Libraries Group.

THE NETHERLANDS PRESERVATION PLAN FAVORS INTERNATIONAL STANCE

The future of our paper past, the final report of the National Preservation Office of the Netherlands (CNC) on the Mass Conservation Trial Programme, has been issued in English to support that office's view of the universal character of the preservation problem and its

strong support of an international approach. The November 1993 report also includes a policy statement on the best means for tackling the problem of deteriorating paper materials in The Netherlands.

The CNC policy aims at the microfilming (and in due time possible conversion to digitization) of one copy of each publication that has been published in The Netherlands in the 19th and 20th centuries. The CNC expects to set up a national register of microform masters (The Netherlands Register of Microform Masters — NROMM) that will share its data with the developing European Register of Microform Masters (EROMM). After microfilming, original books will be stored separately under environmentally controlled conditions, awaiting some form of deacidification. The CNC also has developed a plan for microfilming all Dutch newspapers, which it hopes to start later in 1994.

Among the conclusions in the report:

- In the major libraries in The Netherlands, between 2 and 2.5 million volumes are directly endangered.
- The deterioration is continuing at an as yet undetermined rate.
- There is no single method pre-eminently suitable for mass conservation.
- The causes of deterioration are known: not only the internal acidification of the paper, but also environmental factors such as climate, air pollution, and extent of use.

The CNC recommends that preservation policy focus on conversion (microfilming and newer media), treatment (deacidification and strengthening), prevention (climate control, and paper standards), and research on paper and newer media. English copies of The future of our paper past (CNC-Publications, 5) are available from: CNC Secretariat, c/o Prins Willem-Alexanderof 5, P.O. Box 90407,2509 LK The Hague, The Netherlands.

The CNC is a joint association of the National Library and the State Archives of The Netherlands. It is offering full support to the establishment of the European commission on preservation and access. In addition, the CNC has expressed interest in the activities and results of the Commission's Preservation Science Council, since The Netherlands is undertaking collaborative research projects and has prepared a national research program on preservation.

THE MEMORY OF THE WORLD

In 1992, UNESCO started to implement a new program called Memory of the World to preserve and restore known and unknown library and archival treasures. Pilot projects in Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Poland and Yemen have been started or completed.

Within the framework of this program and with the financial support of UNESCO's General Information Programme (PGI), two meetings were organized by the Polish National Commission for UNESCO in Pultusk, from 12 to 14 September 1993: the first meeting of the International Advisory Committee and Regional Consultation on Conservation, Preservation and Promotion of Documentary Heritage of Central and Eastern European Countries.

These two meetings were intended to define the Memory of the World program and set its main objectives. Some 25 specialists, directors of national libraries and archives, attended both meetings. Hans R_timann, International Program Officer for the Commission on Preservation and Access, was one of the invited observers and representatives of governmental and non-governmental organizations as well as private enterprises who participated.

The discussions resulted in a number of conclusions and recommendations which will allow the launching of the program on a large scale, after being received and approved by the General Conference at its twenty-seventh session.

The Recommendations of the International Advisory Committee can be found in their entirety in the publication cited at the end of this article. Among them are the following:

- Recommends that the Memory of the World program be defined as a new approach to the safeguarding of endangered documentary heritage, the democratization of access and wider dissemination. The objectives of the program, which are complementary and of equal importance, concern preservation by the most appropriate techniques, access without discrimination, and distribution of derived products to the widest possible public;
- Recommends that the concept of documentary heritage be extended to include, not only manuscripts and other rare and precious documents in libraries and archives, but also documents on any media, in particular audiovisual documents and recorded oral traditions, the importance of which varies from one region to another;
- Recommends that the selection of the holdings and collections for the Memory of the World program be based on the following criteria: content, national, regional or international significance, physical condition, context, risk situation, project feasibility (implementation foreseen within a reasonable period of time). The irreplaceable nature of the documents, holdings or collections concerned is to be determined by combining these criteria;
- Recommends that priority be given to activities concerning a region or a number of countries, or undertaken in cooperation and in partnership, that minorities and their cultures as well as the heritage of other nations be taken into account and that these criteria be adapted to national and regional contexts;
- Recommends that UNESCO assume the role of coordinator and catalyst to sensitize governments, international organizations and public and private foundations to the program and foster the development of partnerships for the carrying out of projects.

—Adapted from the *Unesist Newsletter* Vol. 21, No. 3-4, 1993. Published by UNESCO.

POPULAR MICROFILMING GUIDE UNDER REVISION

A second edition of *Preservation Microfilming: A Guide for Librarians and Archivists* that will update information on standards and technical improvements is due for publication in Spring 1995. Awarded the Waldo Gifford Leland Prize by the Society of American Archivists, the guide has been a popular teaching and training tool for many librarians and organizations since it was first published in 1987. In addition to technical information, the new edition will reflect the growth and diversity of cooperative preservation microfilming projects.

Preparation of the guide is being funded by a grant to the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) from the Online Computer Library Center, Inc (OCLC). ARL is overseeing the new edition in cooperation with American Library Association Publishing. Preservation Consultant Lisa Fox is serving as the editor assisted by an advisory committee of preservation experts. Staff at Preservation Resources will provide technical support.

In my view the future role of libraries must not be restricted to simply being an "information broker". It cannot be in the interest of either the states or the libraries to content themselves with simply running a "telecom system for transmitting information". At least some libraries should remain responsible for perpetuating information in the future as well.

—Dr. Franz Georg Kaltwasser, Director of the Bavarian State Library (Bayerische Staatsbibliothek), retired

TAAC TAKES ON NEW MEMBER

Brian L. Hawkins, Vice President of Academic Planning and Administration, Brown University, has accepted an invitation to join the Commission's Technology Assessment Advisory Committee (TAAC). Dr. Hawkins has served as a consultant to over 350 organizations, combining his academic and business experience that spans over two decades. He will be welcomed during the TAAC meeting planned for May 4, 1994.

TAAC is a group of eight representatives of industry and academia working in the field of digital technology and its applications in scanning, storage, transmission and printing. The group was charged in 1989 with advising the Commission on applications of electronics for the preservation of and access to deteriorating paper-based materials, and exploring the growing implications of the relatively short life cycle of electronic publications, records and files as well as non-print analog materials.

EXHIBIT AND CD DEMO AT PSP/AAP ANNUAL MEETING

The Commission's modular exhibit and a demonstration of photographs preserved by the University of Southern California, a member of the Digital Preservation Consortium, were on display at the 1994 annual meeting of the Professional & Scholarly Publishing Division of the Association of American Publishers (PSP/AAP) in Washington, DC, February 9 -11. The program, titled **Catching the Wave,** focused on ways to successfully implement the electronic revolution. At the Commission's exhibit, the most frequently-discussed topics were intellectual property rights and new models for scholars, publishers, and libraries to work together to produce, disseminate, and preserve information. Staff members from the Library of Congress and the National Agricultural Library staffed the exhibit, which was supported by grants from the Gladys Krieble Delmas and H.W. Wilson Foundations.

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Newsletter

NUMBER 67 MAY 1994

ARL, NHA, COMMISSION TO COSPONSOR TESTIMONY FOR NEH PRESERVATION AND ACCESS

Testimony to support the 1995 budget of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) in its efforts to preserve and provide access to deteriorating humanities resources is scheduled for May 9, 1994. As in past years, the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), the National Humanities Alliance (NHA), and the Commission are cosponsoring testimony that affirms the progress of the 20-year brittle books program managed by the NEH Division of Preservation and Access. The cosponsored testimony will be presented by Dr. Jerry D. Campbell, University Librarian, Duke University, and will include a photo-CD demonstration of preserved texts and images.

As reported in the March 25, 1994, issue of the *ALA Washington Newsletter*, "The Administration's FY 1995 budget request for the National Endowment for the Humanities is a flat budget, exactly the same as that for FY94. If appropriations for NEH are enacted without change, FY95 will be the fourth consecutive year with virtually no growth."

NYU BRINGS SPONSOR TOTAL TO 67

New York University (NYU) recently joined the ranks of Commission sponsors, bringing the list of supporting institutions to 67. Sponsors include 23 public and 28 private educational institutions, as well as eight public, state, and federal libraries; six publishers, one higher education coalition, and one association. All sponsors receive expedited mailings of publications, newsletters, and other information. The Commission's two preservation and access exhibits are also available to sponsors at no charge.

NEH GRANTS PRESERVE, PROVIDE ACCESS TO COLLECTIONS

As part of an ongoing effort to preserve and make accessible the nation's heritage recorded in fragile historic documents, newspapers and photographs, the National Endowment for the Humanities' (NEH) Division of Preservation and Access has awarded grants to 26 institutions nationwide.

Libraries, archives and museums in 16 states and the District of Columbia received grants for projects that include microfilming and cataloging of U.S. newspapers, processing and preserving document collections, and conducting preservation-training programs. Two of the grants support the continuation of work begun by members of the Commission's Digital Preservation Consortium (DPC). The total amount of all the grants is nearly $6.5 million. Among them are the following:

- Huntington Library, San Marino - Cataloging and preservation of the early English pamphlet collection, 1500 - 1799, which consists of 6,000 titles.
- Yale University - Related to the DPC, a research and demonstration project to study the organizational, financial and technical issues involved in converting microfilm to digital imagery.
- President and Fellows of Harvard College, Cambridge - Cataloging and preservation of 5,015 drawings representing 123 architectural projects and 48 photograph albums in the archival collections of Henry Hobson Richardson.
- Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC), Andover - Ten preservation microfilming workshops around the country over a two-year period for supervisory staff of libraries and archives, leading to the training of some 150 people in the management of microfilming projects.
- University of Minnesota Libraries, Minneapolis - Arrangement, description and preservation of manuscripts and illustrations of American and British children's books held in the university's Kerlan collection.
- Cornell University, Ithaca - A research and demonstration project, also related to the DPC, to test the feasibility of producing from the digitized pages of 10,000 volumes microfilm that will meet national preservation standards for quality and image permanence. The volumes to be scanned in this two-year project comprise the retrospective core literature of agricultural eco-

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nomics and rural sociology at Cornell.

- New York Public Library, New York - Arrangement, description, cataloging and preservation of primary resources in seven repositories that document the history of dance. This is part of a project by the Dance Heritage Coalition to preserve and make accessible the creative contributions of American dance (see February 1993 newsletter).
- New York State Education Department, Albany - Preservation microfilming of 462 volumes of surveyors' field books and 245 color maps prepared during the 18th- and 19th-centuries, and the reformatting of 6,712 glass-plate and nitrate negatives that document the exploration, mapping and protection of land and environmental resources of New York State.
- New York University, New York - Arrangement, description and microfilming of the archives of Greenwich House, a pioneering settlement house in New York City.

For further information about these or other NEH grants, contact James Turner at (202) 606-8671 or Duane DeBruyne at (202) 606-8456.

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Patricia Battin - President
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Sonny Koerner - Managing Editor

NISO PUBLISHES STANDARDS FOR COATED AND UNCOATED PAPER

The National Information Standards Organization (NISO) is now offering in its *NISO Press* 1994 Catalog copies of standards for coated and uncoated paper. *Permanence of Paper for Printed Publications and Documents in Libraries and Achieves* sets the basic criteria for these types of papers, and covers pH value, tear resistance, alkaline reserve and lignin threshold. This revision to the original 1984 standard is based on testing conducted by the Institute of Paper Science and Technology and contributions from paper makers, publishers, printers, and the preservation community. For further information contact NISO, P.O. Box 338, Oxon Hill, MD 20750-0338.

PAPER DISCUSSES PROS AND CONS OF ELECTRONIC LIBRARIES AND JOURNALS

A new paper, *Electronic Libraries and Electronic Journals*, by Michael Lesk, a member of the Commission's Technology Assessment Advisory Committee (TAAC), discusses the many challenges that libraries, higher education institutions, and publishers face as the world of electronic journals and libraries expands and improves. Lesk notes that there is a public perception that electronic libraries are "about to happen," yet there are only a small number of primary journals available in full text.

Lesk's publication, part of the Tenth British Library Research Lecture, 1993, highlights questions and concerns about the performance of electronic libraries and publishing that pertain to both publishers and Internet operators. It emphasizes the importance of the preservation and intellectual control of the current system, while providing the searching and quick access capabilities of electronics. Lesk suggests that there is a need to ease the transition to systems for distributing images of printed pages.

He concludes with a list of components for a system that establishes a way of "arranging to distribute information that is low-cost, does not encourage cheating, and is easy to use." Noting that although the major difficulties are still economics, risk of theft, and procedural, such a system would still have a role for commercial publishers while allowing the access that Internet operators desire.

Electronic Libraries and Electronic Journals is published by and available free of charge from The British Library, Publications, Research & Development Department, 2 Sheraton Street, London W1V 4BH, England.

PELL AND YATES RECEIVE HONORS FROM AIC

The American Institute for Conservation (AIC) board recently bestowed its most prestigious award, the Forbes Medal, named in honor of Edward Waldo Forbes, to Senator Claiborne Pell and Congressman Sidney Yates for their many years of service to the conservation of cultural property. Yates, first elected to the House of Representatives in 1948, is chairman of the appropriations subcommittee which provides annual funds for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), and the Institute of Museum Services (IMS). Pell, chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Education, Arts, and Humanities, has served as a U.S. Senator since 1961. AIC recognized that both men have a clear understanding of the issues and concerns of the conservation field, and that during the course of several decades, their leadership in congress in promoting the importance of the arts and humanities has been exemplary. For further information about this award, contact Michelle C. Flynn, AIC, (202) 452-9545.

AIC, COMMISSION EXPLORING JOINT CONCERNS

The American Institute for Conservation (AIC) and the Commission are exploring areas of common interest, in particular the recent research projects recommended by the Commission's Preservation Science Council. The issue of library collections conservation to address the care of non-rare materials also is a joint concern. This article was prepared by the AIC, which is in turn publishing an article about Commission initiatives in its newsletter. In addition, the Commission's Communications Program Officer serves on the AIC's Advisory Council.

The American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works is the national membership organization of conservation professionals dedicated to preserving the art and historic artifacts of our cultural heritage for future generations. AIC provides a forum for the exchange of ideas on conservation and advances the practice and promotes the importance of the conservation of cultural property. AIC's Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice defines appropriate conduct for the field. AIC members are practicing conservators, conservation scientists, educators, administrators, technicians and students; archivists, curators, and other museum and library professionals; and architects and art historians. AIC also welcomes members from other disciplines who are interested in conservation.

Two AIC specialty groups are of particular interest to the Commission on Preservation and Access — the Book and Paper group and the Photographic Materials group.

Book and Paper Group

The Book and Paper group (BPG) is the largest of the AIC specialty groups, currently numbering almost 1,000 members. Initially, the group consisted primarily of fine art and paper conservators. Gradually, they were joined by book conservators, attracted by a common interest in paper conservation. As the focus of the conservation field shifted from strictly the treatment of individual items to include the preservation of collections, conservators interested in library and archival collections joined the group.

One BPG project, the *Paper Conservation Catalog* (PCC) was begun in 1983, with eight editions issued. Involving dozens of paper conservators, the PCC assembles in a comprehensive, written form information about current treatments for historic and artistic works on paper. Thirty-eight different topics or "chapters" have been identified for inclusion. A similar project, the Book Conservation Catalog (BCC), begun in 1987 is progressing.

More recently, the Library Collections Conservation Discussion Group (LCCDG) was established to address the care of non-rare library materials. At the 1992 LCCDG session at the AIC annual meeting, a number of research libraries and conservation centers exhibited samples of their book treatments and repairs. In a similar session in 1993, binding problems were grouped according to type and the solutions evaluated as to their various merits. LCCDG's aim is to produce a much needed book on book repair.

The BPG presents a mixed program of papers and presentations at the AIC annual meeting addressing the diverse interests of paper, book, library, and archival conservators. Reports on research, case histories of treatments, technical tips, preservation programs, and panel discussions on different aspects of the field are all informative. Since 1981, BPG has also produced the *Book and Paper Group Annual*, a nonjuried publication that includes papers given at the annual meeting and other submitted materials.

Photographic Materials Group

The Photographic Materials Group (PMG) consists of nearly 250 members interested in photographic preservation, conservation treatment, history, and technology. The backgrounds and interests of PMG members mirror the diversity of materials found in photographic media (plastic film, glass, metal, composite objects including wood, paper prints, and album/book structures). In addition to a core group of photographic conservators trained in this specialty, PMG members include curatorial staff and preservation administrators from libraries, archives, and fine art museums having substantial photographic collections; proprietors of negative duplication businesses; book, paper, and object conservators with an interest in photographic preservation and conservation due to a subspecialization or institutional need; and photographers.

PMG presents a half- or full-day session at the AIC annual meeting. In addition, PMG sponsors a biannual, two-day winter meeting, which usually includes a one-day, pre- or post-conference session featuring workshops and lectures.

PMG meetings usually include a range of talks covering preservation of print, album, and negative collections, treatment case studies, informal treatment tips, updates on research into the stability of photographic media or treatment methods; disaster recovery, the history and technology of photography, and working methods of photographers. In general, PMG focuses on still photographic media rather than motion picture, but presentations are occasionally given in this area due to commonality of materials (plastic) and stability issues.

The last biannual winter meeting was held in Austin, Texas in February 1993. Two days of presentations were followed by a post-session day devoted to color photography —technical history, identification, preservation, and exhibition dangers. General session talks included digital imaging for access and for image restoration, and an update of research at the Image Permanence Institute.

PMG publishes the biannual *Topics in Photographic Preservation*, a nonjuried compilation of papers submitted by members, usually based on talks presented at PMG meetings. PMG members are involved in writing sections of a Photographic Materials Conservation Catalog, now in the developmental stage.

—Betsy Palmer Eldridge, Book and Paper group chair, and Sarah S. Wagner, Photographic Materials group chair, prepared the foregoing information and welcome inquiries. Contact AIC, 1717 K Street, N.W., Suite 301, Washington, DC 20006.

PLANNED COMMISSION EXHIBITS, 1994

DATE	EXHIBIT	LOCATION
Mar. 7-29	Modular Exhibit	University of Texas at Austin
Apr. 1 to May 1	Both	Longwood College, Farmville, Virginia
May 5-6	Modular Exhibit	Lehigh University
May 6-13	Brittle Book Exhibit	Pennsylvania State University
June 20-21	Modular Exhibit	Association of American University Presses Annual Meeting - Washington, DC
July 1 to Aug. 15	Both	Charlevoix Historical Society
Sept. 1-4	Modular Exhibit	American Political Science Association Annual Meeting - New York, New York
Sept. 8-9	Modular Exhibit	Society of American Archivists Annual Meeting - Indianapolis, Indiana
Oct. 6-9	Modular Exhibit	Society for the History of Technology Annual Meeting - Lowell, Massachusetts
Oct. 20-22	Modular Exhibit	American Society for Legal History Annual Meeting - Washington, DC
Oct. 27-30	Modular Exhibit	American Studies Association Annual Meeting - Nashville, Tennessee
Dec. 27-30	Modular Exhibit	American Philological Association Annual Meeting - Atlanta, Georgia

For more detailed information about exhibits, contact Sonny Koerner at the Commission

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The Commission on Preservation and Access

Providing Access to the Accumulated Human Record As Far Into The Future As Possible

Newsletter

NUMBER 68 JUNE 1994

M. STUART LYNN TO HEAD COMMISSION

Billy E. Frye, Chairman of the Commission on Preservation and Access, has announced the appointment of M. Stuart Lynn, Vice President for Information Technologies at Cornell University, as Interim President of the Commission. The appointment will take effect July 1, 1994, upon the retirement of Patricia Battin, president since 1987.

"We are extremely fortunate to be able to call upon Stuart at this time to maintain the full and varied programs of the Commission," Frye noted at the announcement. "His broad interests, visible leadership, and commitment to the Commission's mission promise strong support to our constituencies." Lynn has served on the Commission's Technology Assessment Advisory Committee (TAAC) since its founding in 1988 and has been a leader in Cornell's membership in the Commission's Digital Preservation Consortium.

As vice president for information technologies at Cornell, Lynn is responsible for policy, strategic planning, and coordination of information technologies across the university, including library systems, network services, and associated support services. He is the author of a pivotal TAAC report, *Preservation and Access Technology. A Structured Glossary of Technical Terms* (1990), that forms the basis for a series of Commission papers on the challenges of preservation and access in a digital environment. In 1992, he co-authored a report with the Commission's International Program Officer Hans Rütimann, *Computerization Project of the Archivo General de Indias, Seville, Spain*, which assessed the technical and operational aspects of a large-scale image scanning project.

Prior to his Cornell appointment in 1988, Lynn served for six years as director of computing affairs and professor of electrical engineering and computer science at the University of California at Berkeley. A graduate of Oxford University, England, Lynn received his M.A. and Ph.D. in mathematics from the University of California at Los Angeles.

Lynn has served as the principal or co-principal investigator for collaborative research-and-development projects sponsored by the Commission that have explored the digital preservation of brittle documents, the application of digital technologies to the preservation of brittle books, and the application of photo-CD technology to the digital capture of image materials.

Frye has announced that all current Commission initiatives described in the February 1994 *Working Paper on the Future* (available from the Commission) will move ahead as planned.

COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON BECOMES COMMISSION SPONSOR

The College of Charleston has become a sponsor of the Commission, increasing sponsorship to 68 institutions. The support of sponsors is crucial to the Commission's ability to be responsive to emerging issues worldwide. All sponsors receive expedited mailings of newsletters and reports, as well as complimentary additional copies upon request. They also are entitled to borrow the Commission's preservation exhibits with no service charge.

CARNEGIE SUPPORTS STUDY OF IMPLICATIONS OF TECHNOLOGIES

The Carnegie Corporation of New York has awarded a grant of $180,000 to the Commission on Preservation and Access for partial support of a study of the implications of technological developments for higher education and scholarly communication in the next 20 years. The 18-month study, called **Vision 2010**, is being conducted in partnership with the University of Michigan School of Information and Library Studies. The effort will involve individuals from a broad range of activities and professional experience, including teaching, research, administration, scholarly communication, publishing, librarianship, and information technology fields.

Vision 2010 will seek to explore the productive uses of digital technologies to shape 21st-century information services in support of the basic intellectual values of higher education, rather than to passively accept a technology environment dominated by commercial and industrial interests.

Continued on page 4

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TESTIMONY HIGHLIGHTS NEH AS LEADER IN ACCESS TO HUMANITIES

Support for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) as a national leader for preserving and providing public access to endangered materials within the new National Information Infrastructure (NII) was emphasized at co-sponsored testimony last month on behalf of fiscal year 1995 appropriations. A demonstration of preserved images representing several historical periods, cultures, and geographic areas supplemented the written and oral testimony of Dr. Jerry D. Campbell, representing the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), the Commission on Preservation and Access, and the National Humanities Alliance (NHA). Dr. Campbell is the incoming president of ARL and University Librarian, Duke University.

The May 9 testimony before the Subcommittee on the Interior and Related Agencies, Committee on Appropriations, U.S. House of Representatives emphasized the substantial accomplishments of the Endowment's Division of Preservation and Access as it has assumed a predominant position in the nationwide effort to preserve and provide access to at-risk humanities resources:

> *The Division of Preservation and Access has put into place a collaborative, multi-institutional program that is experienced and expert at selecting resources, adhering to standards, preparing resources for conversion, converting resources to usable formats, and subsequently maintaining and providing broad access to the resources.*

The testimony also urged that NEH be an integral part of planning for the National Information Infrastructure (NII):

> *As we move our education and information services onto an electronic superhighway, the humanities preservation-and-access program is providing a perfect platform for conversion that considers not only the technologies, but the* ***needs of the American public and the content of the materials...***
>
> *Continued — indeed strengthened — federal leadership in advocating the importance and rescue of these resources becomes even more necessary in our increasingly technological environment, where these vulnerable, valuable materials could easily be pushed to the back shelves as colorful, electronic multi-media move to front and center stage.*

The testimony advocated restoring full funding for the Division of Preservation and Access budget and for the 20-year brittle books program:

> *If [the President's] appropriation is enacted without change, FY-95 will be the fourth consecutive year with virtually no growth .... the additional funds needed to bring the FY-95 budget for the Division up to the level called for in the 1988 [brittle books] initiative, and to bring the access programs up to their [full] level are ... $4.295 million.*

This appropriation, the testimony concluded, will provide the Division of Preservation and Access with the necessary support to provide leadership in meeting the multiple preservation and access challenges and in assuring the fullest possible representation of humanities in the new infrastructure, a component essential to the nation's educational system and to all its citizens.

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The Commission on Preservation and Access was established in 1986 to foster and support collaboration among libraries and allied organizations in order to ensure the preservation of the published and documentary record in all formats and to provide enhanced access to scholarly information.

The newsletter reports on cooperative national and international activities and is directed to university administrators, scholars, and faculty; preservation specialists and managers; and members of consortia, governmental bodies, and other groups sharing in the Commission's goals. The newsletter is not copyrighted. Its duplication is encouraged.

Patricia Battin - President
Maxine K. Sitts - Program Officer, Editor
Sonny Koerner - Managing Editor

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY TO INVESTIGATE BRITTLE MAP REFORMATTING

The Commission is supporting a seven-month investigative study by Columbia University to assess the technological possibilities for reformatting brittle maps. The project, part of the collaborative activities of the Digital Preservation Consortium, will be conducted by Columbia University Libraries and Academic Information Systems. The study seeks to identify the most acceptable preservation and access techniques available for oversize, color images associated with text.

Working with five maps from brittle volumes preserved in a previous project funded by the Commission, Columbia will investigate scanning directly from the originals and producing full-frame fiche from the digital files for archival storage. At the same time, they will scan from color transparencies and from full-frame fiche to produce full-size paper printouts from all three sets of scanned images.

They will establish panels of experts to compare results and identify the techniques that produce the best and most cost-effective combination of preservation-quality microfiche, digital images to be manipulated at the screen, and paper printouts.

Results will be used to develop plans for a large-scale project to scan and preserve the publications of the United States Geological Survey.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION ON PRESERVATION AND ACCESS FORMALLY CONSTITUTED; SETS GOALS

The European Commission on Preservation and Access (ECPA) was formally constituted in Amsterdam on March 17, 1994, as a "European initiative to provide access to the accumulated human record as far into the future as possible." The Chairman of the new Board is Professor Pieter J. D. Drenth, President, Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences. Vice-Chairman is Professor Klaus-Dieter Lehmann, Director, Die Deutsche Bibliothek. Alison de Puymège, Deputy Secretary General of the European Rectors' Conference (CRE), is serving as ad interim secretary to the Board.

The mission statement formally adopted at the founding meeting reflects the European Commission's role as a unifying force throughout Europe to address the common concerns of preservation of and access to deteriorating scholarly resources:

MISSION STATEMENT

The European Commission on Preservation and Access was established in 1994 to foster, develop and support in Europe collaboration among libraries, archives and allied organizations, in order to ensure the preservation of the published and documentary record in all formats and to provide enhanced access to the cultural and intellectual heritage.

The mission of the organization is deliberately closely linked with the mission of the Commission on Preservation and Access in the United States. Board members include representatives of universities, academies and learned societies, libraries, archives, and the world of publishing. Among possible ECPA activities are a clearinghouse, newsletter, linkages with other organizations, and demonstration projects. The next meeting of the European Commission is planned for Amsterdam in Fall 1994.

Board members are:

Universities

Prof. Michel Jouve
Vice-Président chargé des relations internationales
Université Michel de Montaigne - Bordeaux III

Prof. Jack Meadows
Dean of Education and Humanities
Department of Library and Information Studies
Loughborough University

Prof. Hinnch Seidel
CRE President and
President, Universität Hannover

Academies and Learned Societies

Prof. Pieter J. D. Drenth
President
Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences

Prof. Inge Jonsson
President
Swedish Academy of Letters, History and Antiquities

Sir Anthony Kenny
Secretary of the Rhodes Trust and
Chairman of the Board, British Library

Libraries

Fernanda Maria Campos
Vice-President
National Library of Portugal

Jean Favier
(Membre de l'Institut)
Président, Bibliothèque Nationale de France

Prof. Klaus-Dieter Lehmann
Director General
Die Deutsche Bibliothek

Prof. Adam Manikowski
Director General
National Library of Poland

Archives

Prof. Eric Ketelaar
General State Archivist of the Netherlands and
Professor, Leiden University

Prof. Geoffrey Martin
Department of History
University of Essex
(former Keeper of the Public Records)

Margarita Vazquez de Parga
Director
Spanish State Archives

Publishing

To be confirmed

Permanent Observer

Hans Rütimann
Consultant
Commission on Preservation and Access

Secretary to the Board (ad interim)

Alison de Puymège
Deputy Secretary General
CRE

EROMM PHASE I COMPLETE; PHASE 2 UNDERWAY

To coordinate preservation microfilming activities of European libraries, the European Register of Microform Masters (EROMM) is being created as a central database of truly international character. At its May 1994 meeting, the Commission on Preservation and Access approved funds in support of Phase 2 of EROMM, during which permanent service will be established and new partners will be added. The Commission contract with the Niedersächsische Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek Göttingen, the new EROMM managing partner, follows upon a successful Commission-sponsored planning meeting in February 1994 that included the four original EROMM partners (Great Britain, France, Germany and Portugal) and representatives from Spain, Hungary, Poland, Estonia, the Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Switzerland and Austria.

The project phase of EROMM began in 1991 as a European Union project funded jointly by the Commission of the European Communities and the Commission on Preservation and Access. During Phase I of EROMM, the task of partner libraries was to gather existing and new microform master data on a national scale, to convert them to UNIMARC bibliographic format, and to send them to EROMM. All data were then merged into one database. The UNIMARC format was extended specifically for EROMM on the model of proposals made for an International Register of Microform Masters in 1990, an initiative chaired by the Commission. With EROMM, this new UNIMARC was used for the first time as an internal working format of an international database. An international pilot database of 50,000 records from the original four partners was set up in January 1993 at the Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris. The records from Phase I are being loaded into RLIN.

EROMM activities are a part of the Commission's International Program funded by the Mellon Foundation.

PORTUGUESE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION ADDRESSES PRESERVATION ISSUES

A seminar on preservation and conservation organized by Portuguese librarians, conservators and engineers was held earlier this year in Lisbon. The seminar addressed the issues of brittle paper, handling and treatment of documents, environmental conditions, and reformatting through microfilming and digitization. The event began with a showing of the video *Slow Fires*; selected Commission publications served as resources for the two days of discussions. The event was the first of its kind in Portugal, and organizers are considering future events covering other aspects of preservation and conservation.

CONSERVATION ONLINE GOPHER PROVIDES INTERNET ACCESS TO COMMISSION PUBLICATIONS

In collaboration with the Commission's communication program, Conservation OnLine (CoOL) now provides browsing and full-text searching of all Commission reports. CoOL, recently made available via gopher, is a project of the Preservation Department of Stanford University Libraries. Its databases cover a wide spectrum of topics of interest to those involved with the conservation of museum, library, and archive materials.

In addition to the Commission publications, other materials available via CoOL are:

- the archives of the Conservation DistList
- the Newsletter of the Western Association for Art Conservation
- the ConsDir, a directory of people involved with conservation/preservation
- a variety of disaster preparedness documents
- a broad range of documents on all aspects of conservation

For full information on gaining access to this service, contact: Walter Henry whenry@lindy.stanford.edu.

Carnegie Supports Study

Continued on page 1

The study is premised on the belief that active planning and a willingness to make fundamental changes can enable higher education to control its destiny in the digital world.

The Commission and the University of Michigan School of Information and Library Studies (SILS) will conduct the planning process from a neutral perspective arising from deep concern about continuing access to scholarly information in an environment of increasingly transient digital information. The planning process is designed to catalyze productive debate of conflicting views, not only by direct participants, but by members of the broader communities. "Indeed, if this study provokes widespread and serious debate and promotes further research and study with resulting recommendations and actions in years to come, this effort will have served a productive, catalytic purpose," according to Rowland Brown, Technology Consultant to the Commission. Principal co-investigators are Patricia Battin, president of the Commission, and Daniel E. Atkins, dean of the University of Michigan SILS. Other SILS participants are Katherine Willis, SILS senior staff member, who is serving as the study's program officer, and Laurie Crum, SILS program coordinator.

Vision 2010 is one component of the Commission's technology initiative that includes plans for a documentary film on the unique characteristics of electronic information and the activities of the Digital Preservation Consortium, which is exploring the collaborative application of digital technology to the preservation of deteriorating printed materials.

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Newsletter

NUMBER 69 JULY 1994

M. STUART LYNN ASSUMES COMMISSION PRESIDENCY

Effective July 1, 1994, M. Stuart Lynn has assumed the presidency of the Commission upon the retirement of Patricia Battin. As announced in last month's newsletter by Chairman Billy E. Frye, Lynn has been active in Commission initiatives on several fronts. He has served on the Commission's Technology Assessment Advisory Committee (TAAC) since its founding in 1988 and has been an active member of the Commission's Digital Preservation Consortium. Lynn most recently held the position of Vice President for Information Technologies at Cornell University, where he was responsible for policy, strategic planning, and coordination of information technologies across the university, including library systems, network services, and associated support services.

Lynn prepared the following statement for newsletter readers as he took office:

... I am excited by the opportunity to take on the presidency of the Commission. Pat Battin has done an outstanding job of establishing the Commission and its hallmark of quality and we all wish her well on her retirement. Her accomplishments have been legendary and have set the framework and tone for the Commission's future.

Our agenda has been firmly established by Pat and the Board, and I intend to carry that agenda forward. This agenda was spelled out in the *Working Paper on the Future* issued in February 1994. In the immediate future, we will catalyze further explorations into the use of digital technologies for preserving and ensuring continued access to deteriorating research resources; promote an established science research agenda to address critical technical issues faced by libraries and archives responsible for large, culturally important collections; involve scholars in exploring technology issues as well as selection strategies for preservation and access; and nurture collaboration with international efforts to preserve and provide access to endangered scholarly materials.

The Commission will pursue the 18-month study, **Vision 2010**, in partnership with the University of Michigan School of Information and Library Studies. This joint effort funded by the Carnegie Corporation will involve individuals from a broad range of activities and professional experience including teaching, research, administration, scholarly communication, publishing, librarianship, and information technology fields to create a vision for how scholarly com-

continued on page 3

REPORT ON ISOPERMS FORMULATES PRESERVATION STRATEGIES

How much longer can I expect collections to be preserved if I follow conservation staff recommendations to improve temperature and relative humidity conditions? What are the preservation consequences of allowing wider swings in temperature and percent relative humidity, since tight environmental limits are expensive? Should we cycle between summer and winter storage conditions? If so, what risks and advantages are entailed?

These are some of the questions challenging preservation administrators that are brought into focus in the new Commission publication, *Isoperms - An Environmental Management Tool*, by Donald K. Sebera. This 20-page publication has been prepared specifically for decision-makers and preservation managers, focusing on how the isoperm method can be used as a quantitative tool to help make choices about environmental conditions in libraries and archives. Though the publication mainly addresses paper as a medium, the principles can be applied to other hygroscopic materials, as has already been done with film materials.

The report starts with a brief review of the chemical and physical factors associated with the deterioration of paper. It then combines the effects of changing temperature and relative humidity on the permanence of paper-based collections into an easily comprehensible form that Sebera terms isoperms. The isoperm representation and analysis provides a unique and useful means of quantifying environmental effects.

Isoperms - An Environmental Management Tool will be distributed to the Commission's mailing list. Additional copies are available for no charge to sponsors, and for $10.00 to others (prepayment required, with check made payable to "Commission on Preservation and Access").

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THE IMPERATIVE OF PRESERVATION EDUCATION

The following are excerpts from a talk by Dr. David B. Gracy II, Associate Dean and Governor Bill Daniel Professor in Archival Enterprise at the University of Texas Graduate School of Library and Information Science and a member of the Commission's Board. The talk was given at the Commission's Library Deans' Forum.

* * *

Important for us at this gathering at Belmont is the broad concept of preservation as the means of achieving the societal goals of planning for, providing, and maintaining access to that information which, experience has taught us, has value in the present and will have value in the future....

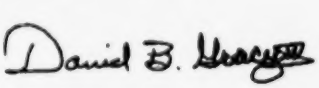
When the situation of a library, archives, or other information institution becomes tight, that is precisely when preservation is needed the most. A good course in preservation for each student in library and information science — whatever corner of the field the student intends to make the site of his or her life's work — will demonstrate the simple truth that preservation is better stewardship because it coordinates all resources toward extending the life of information through actions....

That preservation is proactive, good stewardship (which gives administrators a powerful tool for shaping their holdings for the fast-approaching future) is precisely the point that brings us here.

The would-be professional needs to enter the field with knowledge both broad and deep, and with a credential from a recognized institution to demonstrate the possession of that knowledge. Preservation is not just for the preservationists any more. All graduates need a substantial understanding of both what preservation is and how it gives them an important context within which to make major decisions throughout their careers.

As schools develop courses focusing on emerging technologies, as we at Texas are doing this spring, attention to preservation issues becomes more, not less, important. Emerging technologies are ephemeral. Without attention to how society maintains access to the information in them, we stand to lose more information over time (and a short time) by virtue of using them than has been the case by the use of predecessor technologies. This is a serious, indeed, frightening, problem, as the recently disclosed loss of untold wealths of data from space missions, because tapes were poorly stored and then deteriorated beyond readability, shows as but one example.

Our actions in the preservation realm now are too much reactive. But when every student realizes that practicing preservation, broadly defined as maintaining access to information in its myriad of formats, is inherently the work of the library and information science professional, we will have moved significantly into a proactive posture and thus will be in the best position to achieve that goal of providing that challenging access.



David B. Gracy II

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M. Stuart Lynn - President
Maxine K. Sitts - Program Officer, Editor
Sonny Koerner - Managing Editor

LIBRARY DEANS' FORUM CONSIDERS EDUCATION NEEDS FOR 21ST-CENTURY

An April 1993 grant from the Charles E. Culpeper Foundation to the Commission is supporting an exploration of changing educational needs for librarians as digital technologies are increasingly used for both the preservation of deteriorating paper documents and the creation of new knowledge. The grant provided funds for a two-and-a-half day seminar held at Belmont Conference Center, Elkridge, MD., on January 18-20, 1994.

The seminar focused on the changed environment, the need for a critical reassessment of professional education and prospects for librarianship in the 21st-century. Eight individuals who have been working with the Commission were invited to share their professional experiences with the deans, to comment on how their responsibilities have changed since their educational preparation, and to speculate on the educational requirements for the librarian and archivist of 2010.

David B. Gracy II, a member of the Commission's Board, posed a series of challenges for the conferees. Excerpts from his presentation can be found in the accompanying Board editorial, *The Imperative of Preservation Education.*

Invitees were:

Daniel Atkins, Dean
School of Information & Library Studies
University of Michigan

Toni Carbo Bearman, Dean and Professor
School of Library & Information Science
University of Pittsburgh

Richard W. Budd, Dean
School of Communication, Info & Library Studies
Rutgers University

Charles D. Churchwell, Dean
School of Library & Information Studies
Clark Atlanta University

Blaise Cronin, Dean
School of Library & Information Science
Indiana University

Leigh Estabrook, Dean
Grad School of Library & Information Science
University of Illinois

José-Marie Griffiths, Dean
Grad School of Library & Information Science
The University of Tennessee

Richard H. Lytle, Dean
College of Information Studies
Drexel University

Barbara B. Moran, Dean
School of Information & Library Science
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Ann E. Prentice, Dean
College of Library & Information Services
University of Maryland

Jane B. Robbins, Director
School of Library & Information Studies
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Fred W. Roper, Dean
College of Library & Information Science
University of South Carolina

Brooke E. Sheldon, Dean
Grad School of Library & Information Science
University of Texas at Austin

F. William Summers, Dean
School of Library & Information Studies
Florida State University

The remaining portion of the Culpeper Foundation's grant will be used for a cooperative venture between the Commission and the University of Michigan School of Information and Library Studies (SILS), which recently received a grant from the Kellogg Foundation to support a five year program to restructure the professional ILS program. SILS will be inviting participation by other ILS schools during the coming year. To register to receive more information on this emerging project please send a request by email to Professor Karen Drabenstott at karen.drabenstott@umich.edu.

PERMANENT PAPER UPDATE

POLICY DOCUMENT AVAILABLE

The Library of Congress has made available over the Internet the *Second Report to Congress on the Joint Resolution to Establish a National Policy on Permanent Papers*, from the National Archives, the Government Printing Office, and the Library of Congress. This is the second of the three reports to Congress required by Public Law 101423 (Permanent Paper). It summarizes actions and events during 1992 and 1993 that have supported and assisted implementation of the law, and also discusses actions and events that have the potential for hampering the rate at which implementation moves forward.

The report identifies the following issues for future consideration:

- The possible difficulty in monitoring the Federal Government's progress in increasing the use of permanent paper if Government printing is decentralized.
- The anticipated difficulty of acquiring off-the-shelf papers that are alkaline if they also contain higher levels of post-consumer waste paper.
- The composition of "permanent" papers. How much lignin can be present in paper without compromising permanence?

Second Report to Congress on the Joint Resolution to Establish a National Policy on Permanent Papers, December 31, 1993 is available on LC Marvel (gopher to marvel.loc.gov, port 70). The document is also available in Conservation OnLine (CoOL) in database cool-cfl.

SURVEY FINDS 387 PAPERS

Abbey Publications has surveyed nearly 60 paper mills in the U.S. and Canada in order to gauge how many printing and writing papers on the market qualify as permanent under the newly revised American National Standard for permanent paper (ANSI/NISO/Z39.48-1992). The survey reports a total of 387 papers that meet the ANSI standard, 69% of which contain either recycled or post-consumer fiber, supporting the idea that paper can be both recycled and permanent.

The 51-page booklet, *North American Permanent Paper*, lists each paper by type or use, company and name of paper. The publication also includes a copy of the questionnaire and background chapter on the nature of permanence, history of paper permanence research, recycled paper, standards, testing for permanence, the national policy on permanent papers, and state and local action on acid-free papers.

The booklet is available for $7.00 (plus $3.00 for overseas postage) from Abbey Publications, 7105 Geneva Drive, Austin, TX 78723.

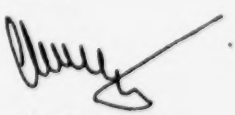
LYNN ASSUMES PRESIDENCY

continued from 1

munication in the 21st-century will be reshaped by changing technological and other forces. As announced last month, a premise of the study is that active planning and a willingness to change are required for higher education to control its destiny in the digital world.

I will be seeking advice over the coming months from the Board and from Commission sponsors as to where the Commission can most usefully focus. I expect to discuss with you a number of possible new initiatives in support of the Commission's goals.

Once again, it is a privilege to carry forward the Commission's initiatives. I look forward to working with our varied constituents to achieve our common goal of ensuring continued access to recorded knowledge, whether stored on paper or electronic media, as far into the future as possible.



M. Stuart Lynn

JOINT DEVELOPMENT OF TECHNOLOGY DEMOS UNDERWAY

As part of an expanded exhibit initiative funded by grants from the Gladys Krieble Delmas and H.W. Wilson Foundations, the Commission is collaborating with Johns Hopkins University and the Smithsonian Institution Libraries to develop demonstrations of preservation and access technologies. The demonstrations are being designed for use at scholarly meetings to illustrate various digital alternatives for access to text and image and to underscore the importance of preserving and maintaining the original worth of scholarly materials in the new digital environment.

The demonstrations will emphasize the importance of cooperation among scholars, libraries, archives, computer centers, and publishers in planning for and implementing new technologies. They also will provide concrete examples of tradeoffs regarding the costs and benefits of different preservation and access media.

Johns Hopkins is developing a demonstration illustrating the features of Project Muse, a joint venture of the Johns Hopkins University Press, The Milton S. Eisenhower Library, and Homewood Academic Computing to publish electronically the 42 journals of Hopkins Press. The demonstration will be made available on diskettes for both PC and Mac platforms. The purpose of Project Muse is to offer the press' journals online as a way to lower production and distribution costs while increasing the value of the journals to the scholarly community. The exhibit materials will describe how the collaborative process evolved among the university's library, computer center, and press and will illustrate preservation and access issues within an electronic environment.

The Smithsonian Institution Libraries (SIL) demonstration will showcase color and black-and-white images drawn from rare books and other special collections materials that reflect the subject interests of the Libraries' 18-branch system. Broadly speaking these include natural history, anthropology, history of technology, decorative arts, and aviation history. The exhibit will provide examples of the types of decision-making required when images are digitized for preservation and access. Photo-CDs, transparencies, photographs, and other access media will be produced by Luna Imaging, Inc., Venice, CA., to highlight differing properties and capabilities for scholarship and research purposes.

With technical support from the Eastman Kodak Company, the Commission has provided demonstrations from the University of Southern California and Cornell University at previous scholars' annual meetings. For more information, contact Program Officer Maxine Sitts.

PRESERVATION SCIENCE COUNCIL RELEASES FINAL TWO PROJECTS

The Commission has made available preliminary descriptions of the final two of six projects developed in 1993. These descriptions deal with longevity tests for PVAs used in double-fan adhesive binding and the effect of moisture in collections under fluctuating RH and temperature.

As with the first four projects, the Commission is seeking support and involvement of interested parties in funding and conducting the needed research. To date, one of the six projects is funded and underway, and three others are being developed collaboratively.

Copies of the final two projects have been mailed to key contacts. Others interested in receiving copies can mail a request and a self-addressed mailing label to the attention of Sonny Koerner at the Commission.

B.J. Vaughn Acquisitions Coordinator
ERIC Clearinghouse on Info Resources
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Syracuse University
Syracuse NY 13244-2340

The Commission on Preservation and Access
1400 16th Street, NW, Suite 740
Washington, DC 20036-2217

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The Commission on Preservation and Access

Providing Access To The Accumulated Human Record As Far Into The Future As Possible

Newsletter

SUMMERTIME GOOD NEWS EDITION

NUMBER 70 AUGUST 1994

ART HISTORY, MEDIEVAL STUDIES COMMITTEES SUBMIT FINAL REPORTS

Inserted with this newsletter are summaries of final reports to the Commission from the Scholarly Advisory Committees (SACs) on Art History and Medieval Studies. The Art History SAC first met in the spring of 1989 after participants in a September 1988 planning conference at Spring Hill, Minnesota recommended that informed scholarly opinion should be brought to bear on the establishment of priorities for the preservation of published materials in art history (See *Scholarly Resources in Art History: Issues in Preservation*. Washington, DC: Commission on Preservation and Access, 1989).

As reported in June 1994, the committee determined that the criteria for preservation be based upon the assessment of three primary considerations: rarity, wide usefulness, and historiographic significance to the entire discipline regardless of content, as well as brittleness. The committee also decided that periodicals, ranked in importance of use by a wide variety of scholars, would be a crucial first target of concern. The summary of the final report includes a list of the 100 most "essential" periodicals chosen from a list of 2,000 serials in the collection of the Art and Architecture Library of Stanford University.

The SAC on Medieval Studies first met in October 1990 following a colloquium jointly sponsored by the Medieval Institute at Notre Dame, the Medieval Academy of America, and the Commission. The February 1994 summary report includes a list of the group's tasks and accomplishments and a series of recommendations, including one that the Medieval Academy continue the life of a Committee on Libraries to encourage and review preservation efforts and to study new forms of information technology and their consequences for the scholarship of medievalists.

COMMISSION DISTRIBUTES YALE REPORT ON PROJECT OPEN BOOK

Digital image quality, indexing structures, and production workflow are the focus of a new report, *The Setup Phase of Project Open Book*. This report to the Commission from Yale University Library outlines incremental progress made during the second phase of Project Open Book, a major effort by the library to explore the usefulness of digital technologies for preserving and improving access to deteriorating documents. The Commission has supported the development of the master plan for the project, as well as its first two phases.

Project Open Book is an effort to convert 10,000 volumes from preservation microfilm to a digital library. During the setup phase, Yale acquired a single integrated conversion workstation that included microfilm scanning hardware and associated conversion and enhancement software. As they developed a production workflow, the team defined three conditions that

continued on page 4

NYPL PRESIDENT TO JOIN BOARD; GOLDSMITH RESIGNS

Dr. Paul LeClerc, President of the New York Public Library (NYPL), has accepted an invitation to join the Commission board of directors and will be officially welcomed at the annual meeting October 28, 1994.

LeClerc was recently appointed President of the NYPL after serving as Professor of French and President of Hunter College since 1988. During the same time period he was a member of the Doctoral Faculty in French at The City University Graduate School and University Center.

At Baruch College, he served as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and as Deputy President. He also served as University Dean for Academic Affairs and Chairman of the Council of Presidents Long Range Planning Committee at The City University of New York. LeClerc has many published books and articles, and has acted as consultant to a number of foundations and organizations.

The Commission board has accepted the resignation of author Barbara Goldsmith, a trustee of NYPL. She was thanked for her long-time advocacy of book preservation and acid-free paper.

1400 16th Street, NW, Suite 740 • Washington, DC 20036-2217 • Telephone: 202/939-3400 • Fax: 202/939-3407

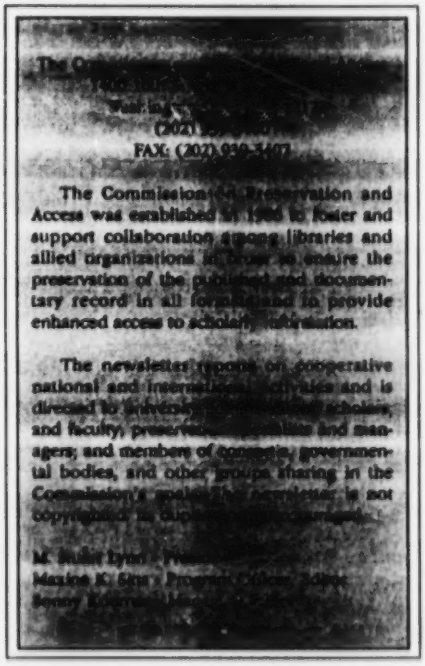
DEMOS TO SPOTLIGHT SCHOLARLY ACCESS, DIGITAL SCANNING

Demonstrations of technologies that enhance scholarly access to preserved materials are under development at the Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village and the Pennsylvania State University, as part of the expanded exhibit initiative funded by grants from the Gladys Krieble Delmas and H.W. Wilson Foundations.

The Historical Resources Business Unit of Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village and the University of Michigan Historical Center for the Health Sciences SourceLINK Project are collaborating in the production of a Photo-CD that will highlight the Museum's efforts to enhance access to its collections through the application of telecommunications and digital technologies. The interactive Kodak Portfolio Photo-CD will be designed to build awareness of the Museum's remote access initiatives and to demonstrate how enhanced access can benefit core user groups including traditional scholars, collectors, restorers, and educators.

The Pennsylvania State University Libraries' will be developing posters and handouts to accompany a Xerox system demonstration of the libraries' digital scanning project. That project included scanning and storing on optical disk over 14,500 pages from archival collections, including all the Steel Workers' Organizing Committee papers (see September 1993 newsletter).

The demonstrations will be shown at Commission exhibits during scholarly meetings over the next year. Other demonstrations are under development at the Johns Hopkins University and Smithsonian Institution Libraries (see July 1994 newsletter). All the presentations will underscore the importance of preserving and maintaining the original worth of scholarly materials in the electronic environment.


FAX: (202) 939-3407

The Commission on Preservation and Access was established in 1986 to foster and support collaboration among libraries and allied organizations in order to ensure the preservation of the published and documentary record in all formats and to provide enhanced access to scholarly information.

The newsletter reports on cooperative national and international initiatives and is directed to librarians, archivists, scholars, and faculty; preservation officers and managers; and members of academic, governmental bodies, and other groups sharing in the Commission's goals. The newsletter is not copyrighted and duplication

TECHNOLOGY EXHIBIT AT AAUP

The Commission's technology exhibit and a CD-ROM demonstration by the National Agricultural Library (NAL) were on display at the 1994 annual meeting of the Association of American University Presses, Inc. (AAUP) in Washington, DC, June 20 - 21. The meeting focused on the theme of building new alliances as presses face increasing budgetary restraints and the electronic revolution.

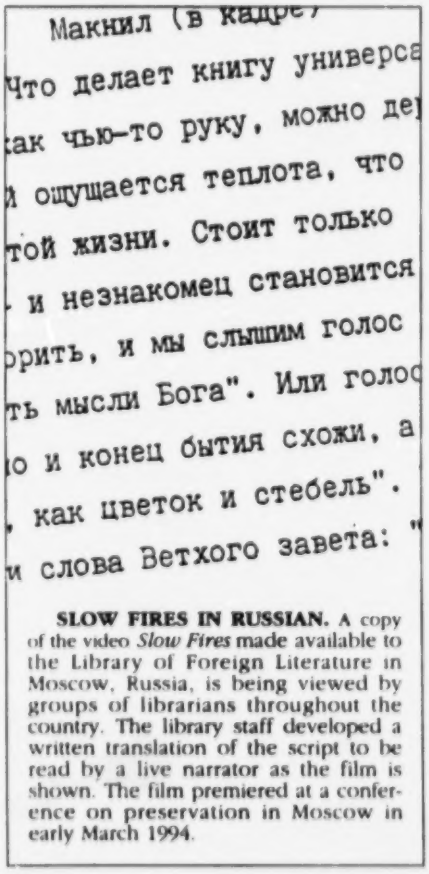
An NAL staff member demonstrated a CD-ROM of papers, notes, and letters of George Washington Carver, part of the library's ongoing National Agricultural Text Digitizing Project (NATDP).

The Commission's exhibit activities are supported in part by grants from the Gladys Krieble Delmas and H.W. Wilson Foundations.

DANCE HERITAGE COALITION RECEIVES SUPPORT FOR ACCESS PROJECT

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) has awarded $963,000 for the Dance Heritage Coalition to begin a national cooperative project to significantly increase the accessibility of dance research materials. The grant is the largest ever given by the Endowment in the area of access.

This project is the first step in a broad ranging effort by the Coalition to better preserve and make accessible the historic record of dance in America. The grant will fund computerized cataloging of more than 18,000 items and 1,500 linear feet of manuscripts and archives from the collections of seven institutions over the coarse of two years. As well, it will fund efforts to locate additional dance collections and archives, develop preservation practices, and train scholars and others in the dance community to use the computer catalog. The project is coordinated by the Dance Heritage Coalition, a consortium of performing arts libraries and representatives of the dance community. The New York Public Library, as the official recipient of the NEH award, will administer the grant funds (see also Feb. 1993 and May 1994 newsletters).


Макнил (в кадре)

Что делает книгу универса

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орить, и мы слышим голос

ть мысли Бога". Или голос

ло и конец бытия схожи, а

, как цветок и стебель".

и слова Ветхого завета: "

SLOW FIRES IN RUSSIAN. A copy of the video *Slow Fires* made available to the Library of Foreign Literature in Moscow, Russia, is being viewed by groups of librarians throughout the country. The library staff developed a written translation of the script to be read by a live narrator as the film is shown. The film premiered at a conference on preservation in Moscow in early March 1994.

NEWSLETTER INSERT

SUMMARY OF THE FINAL REPORT of the Scholarly Advisory Committee on Art History to The Commission on Preservation and Access June 1994

The Scholarly Advisory Committee on Art History was one of the several advisory groups of disciplinary professionals appointed by the Commission on Preservation and Access to participate in the development of strategies for the selection of materials to be preserved. This report summarizes the activities, conclusions and recommendations of the Art History Committee during its five-year tenure and includes an Appendix containing a list of art serials important to the future study of art history. Since these recommendations were determined on the basis of their intellectual value rather than the current condition of the artifact, individual titles may not necessarily require priority for preservation intervention at this time.

Beginning with a planning conference (September 1988) at Spring Hill, Minnesota[1], the special preservation problems of the visual arts (and of visual resources in cognate disciplines, such as geography, geology, and medical sciences) have been an ongoing issue for the Commission on Preservation and Access. The participants in the Spring Hill meeting were unanimous in recommending that informed scholarly opinion should be brought to bear on the establishment of priorities for the preservation of published materials in art history. The Commission's response was to appoint the present Committee which met first in the spring of 1989. It is important to note that both librarians and art historians composed the membership, for it was evident that the expertise of both occupations was both complementary and necessary for the task.

The charge given to the Committee was to advise the Commission as to strategies and priorities for the preservation of materials of scholarly importance, composed of text and image, recognizing that, while almost all books, journals, and newspapers published since the 1850s were becoming brittle and unusable, there was neither time nor resources enough to save everything. During its deliberations, the Committee noted that the period from the mid-1870s to the outbreak of World War I was a time of heightened activity both in art history, notably classical archaeology of the Middle East, and in the critical study of burgeoning movements and schools of contemporary art. Thus a large volume of important scholarship was published in an era whose acidic paper is in the greatest danger of loss through embrittlement. This stark fact anchors any preservation strategy in art history.

Strategy:

The Committee determined that the criteria for preservation should be based upon the overall assessment of three primary considerations: a) rarity, b) wide usefulness, c) historiographic significance to the entire discipline regardless of specific content, as well as d) brittleness. After considerable deliberation, the Committee also decided that periodicals, ranked in importance of use by a wide variety of scholars, would be a crucial first target of concern.

This decision led to implementation, in several phases, of an activity of evaluation of periodicals for preservation. The result of the final analysis by a panel extending beyond the Committee is shown in the Appendix. Its results offer converging consensus on a number of periodicals, as well as some weighting according to fields with largest pools of information at risk from the era of brittle papers. These decisions were not based on the condition of the periodicals at the present time but instead represent the core literature that should be available to future scholars. Preservation intervention may or may not be indicated at this time. The Committee believes that librarians are in a better position than scholars to decide which of the recommended selections are most urgently in need of preservation action because of condition.

The Committee also strongly endorsed the concept of workshop procedures for turning to those most endangered fields, such as 19th-century archaeology, for their own assessment of crucial publications beyond periodicals. Such

[1] ***Scholarly Resources in Art History: Issues in Preservation.*** **Washington, D.C.: Commission on Preservation and Access, 1989.**

workshops should involve both scholars and librarians, and they could unfold most effectively in the context of a "great collections" library, where such materials would be present in greatest numbers and could be inspected as part of the process. The Committee recognizes that the implementation of the workshop model will require collaborative effort of librarians and scholars as well as financial support.

Efforts to arouse awareness of the brittle books issue among the scholarly community met with limited success at busy annual meetings of the College Art Association on two successive years. Most of the attendees were librarians. More widely successful was the use of written channels, principally the editorial prefaces in the *Art Bulletin* journal as well as articles in the College Art *Newsletter*. However, the need remains for continued efforts to arouse concern for the issue among affected scholars.

Principles:

The Committee has long endorsed the proposition that visual images require special technological attention. Results of considering these issues in tandem with other disciplines outside the humanities have already been published by the Commission as the Report of the Joint Task Force on Text and Image, *Preserving the Illustrated Text* (April 1992).

Applauding the activities of the Commission on Preservation and Access, the Committee reiterates its desire for more international coordination, especially with European agencies, in both preservation and conservation projects. The Committee also endorses heightened cooperation between librarians and scholars in designing preservation projects. It is evident that current library/classification systems complicate the selection process both by including material scholars consider irrelevant, and also by missing important publications whose significance to scholars is easily overlooked due to variant filing categories that differ from current scholarly usage. This is a problem that librarians are well aware of, as are scholars. It suggests the possibility that labor-intensive title-by-title searching might be the most effective strategy for assessing the intellectual value of serial publications in specific disciplines. This list could then be used by preservation managers to ensure the continued viability of these titles. The workshop approach might assist in providing maximal input from concerned specialists working in conjunction with art librarians.

Finally, the Committee continues to insist on the need for serious attention to the technical possibilities for preserving visual information. Digital imaging, which was not an option during most of the Committee's work, is now the focus of a variety of research and demonstration projects in library, archival and museum collections.

APPENDIX

A list of approximately 2,000 serials in the collection of the Art and Architecture library of Stanford University was sent to all members currently serving on the Scholarly Advisory Committee on Art History as well as to selected specialists in the following fields: ancient, Islamic, Egyptian-Mesopotamian, Asian, American, Renaissance, baroque, 19th-century and medieval art, as well as prints and drawings. Each recipient was asked:

> *Choose the 100 most "essential" periodicals from the enclosed list. "Essential" means those periodicals most important for your scholarship, research and teaching in the field of art history that is your specialty. An "essential" periodical might be important to you personally, important to peers and colleagues in your field, or important for students in that field. These choices will be subjective judgments based on your own scholarly experience and knowledge of the field.*

Collectively, the judges identified nearly 300 items from the list as "essential." About one-fifth of this total number were periodicals that had begun publication after 1940. Some periodicals were chosen by many judges, some by few, as might be expected. Since the total number of judges was not large and the special sub-fields of art history which they represent are numerous, it seemed unwise to compose the final list of recommended choices solely on quantity of choices. In a special sub-field that was represented by a single judge, after all, one vote amounts to unanimity.

Members of the Committee reviewed the list of 240 chosen periodicals that remained after eliminating post-1940 starts, and suggested cuts and retentions on the basis of their scholarly judgment. The final result is a compound of professional assessments of importance for scholarship. There was no effort made to assess the condition of the books for brittleness.

TITLE	**First Published in**
AA: Architecture d'aujourdhui	1930
Aachener Kunstblatter	1906
Academ. Royale de peint. et sculp Proces-verbaux	1875
Academy notes (London)	1875
American architect and architecture	1875
American Art Review	1879
American J. Archaeology	1885
Anales de Univ nacional inst. invests. estet de Mexico	1937
Annales, Musee Guimet (Paris)	1880
Annals of the fine arts (London)	1816
Annual of the Palestine Exploration Fund	1911
Annual reports India archeological survey	1900
Antike Denkmaeler	1891
Antike und Christentum: Kultur-u. religionsgesch. Studien	1929
Antiquaries journal	1921
Archaeologia (Society of Antiquaries, London)	1773
Archaeological journal (London)	1844

NEWSLETTER INSERT

Medieval Academy of America Committee on Library Preservation

Commission on Preservation and Access
Scholarly Advisory Group on Medieval Studies

SUMMARY REPORT

October 1990 – February 1994

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Susanne F. Roberts, Chair

Origins and goals

The Medieval Academy of America's Committee on Library Preservation grew out of the American Council for Learned Societies' concern for the threat posed to scholarship by acidic paper. As one of its constituent societies, the Academy commissioned in 1988 a report on the consequences for medieval studies of the embrittlement of books. In March 1990, along with the Commission on Preservation and Access and the Medieval Institute at Notre Dame, the Academy sponsored a colloquium of medievalists and librarians to discuss the danger to medieval studies and possible solutions. In addition to publishing its proceedings, the colloquium recommended to the Academy the formation of a committee on library preservation to identify endangered collections important to the various fields of medieval studies and to encourage their preservation. In April 1990, the Academy approved and charged the committee and appointed its members. It first met in October 1990 under the auspices of the Commission on Preservation and Access as its Scholarly Advisory Group on Medieval Studies.

Tasks and Accomplishments

1. In order to identify research collections in medieval studies richest in material printed during the brittlebook era and to encourage these libraries to undertake microfilming projects centered on these books, the committee examined existing tools both in print and online. When these proved disappointingly general in their description of collections, the committee surveyed the Academy's membership for direct scholarly assessment of the most valuable gatherings of medieval materials. This technique also yielded poor results; a small number of replies testified to scholars' general lack of awareness of the problem. Nevertheless, between these replies and the pooled knowledge of its members, the committee drew up a list of important collections for scholars in medieval studies.

2. In addition to identifying libraries, the committee surveyed past and current preservation filming efforts to ascertain what work had already been accomplished. Interpreted with caution, the resulting list of some thirty projects gave a useful view of work done or in progress and guided the committee in its endeavor to encourage filming in rich collections and otherwise neglected subject areas.

3. Trying to initiate preservation projects, the committee's most important function, has proven the hardest part of our task. The process of gathering accurate information has been time consuming. Moreover, few libraries were in a position to apply for grants immediately upon hearing from the committee. They were at varying stages of readiness to undertake recommended projects, from having long queues in well developed preservation programs to having no preservation program at all and no of starting one. We defined a set of approaches for different types of libraries. We also designed and produced a packet of information to educate and encourage scholars and librarians about preservation needs and possibilities.

Slowly, however, the committee realized that many libraries, even those informed and enthusiastic about preservation, lack the staff and expertise to apply for NEH grants in the first place to say nothing of meeting their costsharing requirements. Along with some discouragements, the committee has experienced notable successes in the form of five current and prospective applications for NEH funding to preserve strong medieval collections.

4. Another of the committee's crucial tasks has been to educate medievalists about the problem of books printed on acidic paper and to enlist their support in this campaign to save as much of the scholarly heritage as possible. To achieve these goals we developed a resource packet, sponsored special sessions at academic meeting, and contributed articles on preservation to the Academy's newsletter.

Sessions at the Academy's annual meetings in April 1991 and March 1992 focused directly on the brittle book problem and preservation options. In April 1993, the topic of preservation was introduced into a more general session on "the electronic medievalist." In May 1993 the committee sponsored a very successful session on the creation and destruction of libraries at the annual medieval congress held at Western Michigan University (Kalamazoo).

In these venues the committee has also shown film and video versions of "Slow Fires," displayed the "Brittle Books"

exhibit, and made available informational literature on preservation questions. In addition committee members have carried its concerns to business meetings and plenary sessions.

Over the past three years, the committee has contributed eight articles to the Medieval Academy's newsletter which reaches some 3,500 individuals three times a year. Topics have included general call to arms, relevant preservation projects, valuable collections at risk, the European Register of Microform Masters, deacidification, locating preservation microfilm, and the Bellagio conference.

Recommendations

Lessons learned since March 1990 have prompted the committee to make to make the following recommendations:

1. That the Medieval Academy continue the life of a Committee on Libraries charged with the encouragement and review of preservation efforts, but also with the study of new forms of "information technology" and of their consequences for the scholarship of medievalists.
2. That the Academy continue to combat scholarly apathy in the face of the threats to survival of academic libraries. This will require local and national efforts to educate scholars about the threats and about practicable responses to them.
3. That the Academy consider ways in which issues of preservation and the new "information technologies" ought to be incorporated in graduate curricula in medieval studies.
4. That the Academy take a more active role in bringing about international scholarly cooperation on issues of library preservation. The Academy should work with the Commission on the exchange of news, but it should also address its concerns with preservation to FIDEM and other international bodies.
5. That the Commission on Preservation and Access consider ways to foster communication among the various Scholarly Advisory Groups in adjacent or overlapping fields. Means for doing this might include an informal newsletter for chairs of the Groups, meetings for the chairs, and more regular participation of the Commission's officers in the Groups' meetings.

(—excerpted from committee report)

Appendix — Funded Preservation Projects

Covering Material of Interest to Medievalists as of February 1994

Preservation Programs

Fine Arts

Art Serials: RLG, 9 participating institutions
Fine Arts: Ohio State University

History

East German Serials (Social Studies): University of Wisconsin
European History: Yale University
German History: University of Michigan
History of European and American Technology: University of Chicago
History of Science: Stanford University
Jewish History and Culture: Stanford University
Medieval cultural history, philosophy, theology, and textual studies: Notre Dame, Medieval Institute
Slavic Language and Literature/Russian History: University of Illinois — Champaign/Urbana
Western European Nineteenth Century Cultural History Journals: University of Minnesota

Language and Literature

Arabic Collection: Princeton University
Arabic Manuscripts: Princeton University
Classical Literature: American Philological Association and Columbia University Library
European Language and Literature: University of California — Berkeley
French Literature: Columbia University
German Literature: Columbia University
University of Wisconsin — Madison
University of Wisconsin — Madison Cutter Collection
K. G. Saur Publishers
Italian Language and Literature: University of Chicago
Ottoman Turkish Literature: Ohio State University
Slavic Language and Literature/Russian History: University of Illinois — Champaign/Urbana
Slavic Languages Project: University of Chicago
Spanish and Portuguese Literature: Columbia University
Turkish Language and Literature: Princeton University

Philosophy and Religion

Canon Law: Catholic University, Washington, D.C.
Foundations of Western Civilization (ancient, medieval, Renaissance Europe — Religion and Philosophy): Columbia University
Franciscan Institute Collection: St. Bonaventure University
Medieval cultural history, philosophy, theology, and textual studies: Notre Dame, Medieval Institute
Religion: American Theological Library Association
Religion and Philosophy: American Theological Library Association

Social Science

Folklore: Indiana University
Social Science: University of Michigan
Social Sciences: Yale University

For [illegible] call or write the Commission on Preservation and Access, [illegible] DC 20[illegible] (202) 939-3400

TITLE	First Published in
Archaeological report, Egypt Exploration Society	1890
Archeological survey of India (several series)	1874
Archaeologische Gesellschaft zu Berlin	1841
Archaologische Bibliographie (Arch. Inst. Deu. Reich)	1913
Archaologischer Anzeiger (Berlin)	1896
Architectural forum	1892
Architectural record	1891
Architectural review	1896
Archives de l'art francais	1895
Archivo espanol de arquelogia	1940
Ars asiatica (Brussels)	1914
Ars islamica (Ann Arbor)	1934
Art Bulletin	1913
Art History	1937
Art in America	1913
Art Index	1929
Art Journal	1939
Art news annual	1939
Art prices current (London)	1908
Art Quarterly	1938
Art studies: medieval, renaisance and modern	1923
Arte cristiana (Milan)	1913
Artibus Asiae	1925
ARTnews	1902
Ausonia (Roma)	1906
Bauhaus (Liechtenstein)	1926
Beaux-arts (Paris)	1843
Bijutsu kenkyu (J. art. studies - Tokyo)	1932
Bijutsu sekai (Tokyo)	1890
Bollettino d'arte	1907
British museum quarterly	1926
Builder, The	1842
Bulletin antieke beschaving ('s-Gravenhage)	1926
Bulletin archeologique du Comite des travaux historiques.	1883
Bulletin monumental (Paris)	1834
Bulletin - Museum Far East. Antiquities (Stockholm)	1929
Bulletin of Amer. Schools of Oriental Research	1919
Bulletin of the Metropolitan Museum of Art (NY)	1905
Bulletin of the Detroit Institute of Arts	1919
Bulletin of the Art Institute of Chicago	1907
Bulletin of the American Art Union (formerly Transactions of Amer. A.U.)	1839
Bulletin of the Cleveland Museum of Art	1914
Bulletin, Societe de l'Histoire d'art francais	1879
Bulletino des Deutsches Archaol. Inst. Romische Abt.	1896
Burlington Magazine	1903
Cahiers d'art (Paris)	1926
Camera work	1903
Catalogue des ouvrages, Salon, Soc. nat., beaux-arts	1890
College art journal (a.k.a. The Art J.)	1929
Connoisseur	1901
Craftsman	1901
Critica d'arte	1935

TITLE	First Published in
De Stijl (Leiden)	1917
Dedalo: Rassegna d'arte	1933
Der Moderne Stil (Stuttgart)	1899
Deutsche Bau-Zeitung (Berlin)	1867
Die Christliche Kunst (Munchen)	1904
Die Kunst (Munchen)	1899
Die Kunst unserer Zeit	1889
France Comite des travaux historiques et scientifiques	1883
Gazette des beaux-arts	1859
Hesperia	1932
Hobby Horse, The (London)	1886
Il Vasari: revista d'arte e di studi vasariani	1927
International Studio	1897
Istanbuler Mitteilungen Arch Inst Deut. Reich	1933
Jahrbuch d. Deutsch. Arch. Inst. Erganzungheft	1888
Jahrbuch der asiatischen Kunst (Leipzig)	1924
Jahrbuch der preussischen Kunstsammlungen	1880
Jahrbuch der bildenden Kunst (Berlin)	1902
Jahrbuch der kunsthistorischen Sammlungen in Wien	1883
Jahrbuch Deutsches archaologisches Institut	1886
Jahrbucher Deutscher Werkbund	1912
Jahresheft des Osterreichisches Arch. Inst.	1898
Jahrsgabe der Deutsche Verein fur Kunstwissenschaft	1913
Journal, Indian Society of Oriental Art (Calcutta)	1933
Journal of the Warburg & Courtauld Institutes	1937
Jugend: Munchener illust. wochenschr.	1896
K'ao ku hs ueh pao (Chinese J. Archaeol)	1936
The Kokka	1889
Konsthistorisk tidskrift (Stockholm)	1932
Ku kung chou kan (Peiching)	1929
Ku kung (Peiping)	1929
L'Architecture d'aujourdhui (Boulogne)	1930
L'Art et les artistes (Paris)	1905
L'Assiette au beurre	1901
L'Illustration (Paris)	1843
La Critica d'arte	1935
La Revue de l'art ancienne et moderne	1897
La Revue d'art	1896
Le Charivari	1832
Le Magasin pittoresque	1833
Magazine of Art, The (London)	1878
Marburger jahrbuch fur Kunstwissenschaft	1924
Memoires, Societe nat. antiquaires de France	1817
Memoirs of the American Academy in Rome	1917
Memoirs of the Archeological Survey of India	1919
Memorie de Pontificia Academia romana di archeol.	1923
Metropolitan Museum studies	1928
MFA bulletin (a.k.a Boston Museum Bull)	1903
Minotaure (Paris)	1933
Mitteilungen Deut. Arch. Inst. (Romisches Abteilung.)	1931
Mitteilungen Deut. Arch. Inst. (Abteilung Kairo)	1930
Mitteilungen Kunsthistorisches Institut (Florence)	1908
Mitteilungendes Deut. Arch. Inst. Athenische Abteil.	1876

TITLE	First Published in
Monumenti antichi (Rome)	1890
Monuments et memoires (Acad. des inscrs. etc. Paris)	1894
Munchener jahrbuch der bildenden Kunst	1906
Notizie degli scavi di antichita	1876
Old Master Drawings	1926
Oud Holland	1883
Palladio (Rome)	1937
Pan (Berlin)	1895
Pantheon	1928
Parnassus	1928
Philadelphia Museum Bulletin	1903
Print collector's quarterly	1911
Progressive architecture	1920
Rassegna d'arte antica e moderna	1901
Rendiconti de Pontificia Acad. romana di archeol. **(continues Dissertazioni della P.A.r.)**	1881
Reportorium fur kunstwissenschaft **(preceded Zeitschr. fur Kunstgeschichte, below)**	1876
Revue archeologique	1844
Revue belge d'archeol. et de l'histoire d'art	1931
Revue de l'art chretien	1857

TITLE	First Published in
RIBA journal (London)	1893
Rivista del Instituto nazion di arch e storia d'arte	1929
Rivista di archeologia cristiana (Roma)	1924
Romisches Jahrbuch fur Kunstgeschichte **(subsequently Veroffentlichung der Bibl. Hertziana)**	1937
Salon (Societe des Artistes francais)	1673
Shen-chou kuo kuang chi (China)	1908
Skrifter Acta Svenska Inst. i Rom	1932
Sonderschriften, Osterreich. Inst. Arch.	1901
Stadel-Jahrbuch (Munchen)	1921
Studio (London) (American edit. titled Internat Studio)	1893
Transactions and proceedings, Japan Society, London	1892
Verve (Paris)	1937
Wallraf-Richartz Jahrbuch	1924
Walters Art Gallery Journal	1938
Whitney Museum biennial exhib. contemp. Amer. paint.	1932
Wiener Jahrbuch fur Kunstgeschichte	1921
Yearbook of Japanese art (Tokyo)	1927
Zeitschrift des Deut. Vereins fur Kunstwissenschaft	1934
Zeitschrift fur Kunstgeschichte	1932

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GERMAN PLANT OPERATIONAL

A press release from Battelle Ingenieurtechnik GmbH announces that the first large-scale paper deacidification plant was recently put into operation at the Book Preservation Center of the Deutsche Bücherei in Leipzig. With its annual capacity of 200,000 books, the facility is represented by Battelle as the largest mass deacidification plant in the world.

The Deutsche Bibliothek and Battelle started a research program concerning the implementation of mass deacidification in Germany in 1987, with support by the German Federal Ministry for Research and Technology. One of the highlights of this program is putting into service the first mass deacidification plant integrated into a library.

A deacidification process to prevent acidic papers from deterioration, developed by Battelle, is used in the facility. The liquid-phase impregnation process works with a neutralization agent containing magnesium-titanium-ethoxides which deacidify and supply an alkaline buffer of magnesiumcarbonate. A non-polluting, non-toxic, silicon-organic solvent replaces the environmentally harmful CFC's used by former processes. Due to compatibility with most common materials, the process can be applied to both library and archival collections.

— Based on a press release from Battelle Ingenieurtechnik GmbH, Dusseldorfer Str. 9, D-65760 Eschborn, Germany

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS PROGRESS

June 1994. During the past year, the Library of Congress (LC) worked actively with Akzo Chemical Co. on further refinement of the DEZ deacidification process, and an LC appointed team has been conducting an evaluation of Preservation Technologies, Inc.'s Bookkeeper process.

AKZO: DEZ PROCESS. A team of technical specialists from the chemical, scientific, and library fields helped the Library design and evaluate a research and development project aimed at solving DEZ treatment problems identified during the Library's earlier deacidification procurement effort. The Swiss Federal Archives cooperated with the Library and participated on the technical management team. The Library also contracted with the Universities of Houston and Delaware, where 15 laboratory experiments were conducted to emulate conditions in the Akzo plant in Texas. This laboratory research focused attention on reducing book and permeation temperatures as a primary means of eliminating or significantly reducing previously observed problems such as odors and minor physical damage in treated books. The test runs demonstrated significant progress in addressing these issues.

> ***The libraries are full of books that are hundreds, even thousands of years old, but there's not a single computer program that I know of that's even 50 years old that will run on my computer today.***
>
> — C.M. Sperberg-McQueen, senior research programmer, Academic Computing Center, University of Illinois at Chicago. Quoted in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, June 15, 1994 (page A23).

In December, Akzo Chemical Co. announced that it had made a business decision to withdraw from the deacidification business; the company stopped treating books for customers, including LC, in April. The Library had hoped to complete its report about the DEZ R&D initiative and submit it to Congress by June. The report will be based in part upon assessment of the odor level and physical condition of books treated in LC's test runs. The latter assessment, conducted by conservators and a LC-management deacidification assessment team, cannot be concluded until books from each of LC's test runs are returned from Texas. As of early June, books from one of the final test runs had not been received back at the Library for evaluation.

PTI: BOOKKEEPER PROCESS. The second phase of the Library's deacidification program seeks to evaluate and encourage the development of other deacidification processes. After the Library advertised the availability of this evaluation and testing program, Preservation Technologies, Inc. (PTI) of Pittsburgh was the only company that requested a formal evaluation of their process, known as Bookkeeper.

The Library has employed a team of technical specialists to help it evaluate the Bookkeeper process. In addition, the Library contracted with the independent Institute of Paper Science and Technology (IPST) testing laboratory in Atlanta to obtain physical and chemical test results on Bookkeeper-treated books; and the Library asked the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to assess the impact of this process.

PTI has treated library and test books for the Library's technical evaluation team. Samples were aged at the Library and are being tested by IPST. After it receives final IPST test data and the EPA report, LC's evaluation team will complete its report concerning the Bookkeeper process. Preliminary results received to date from the evaluation team, IPST, and the EPA look promising.

REPORTS. The report about Bookkeeper and the Library's report on the DEZ process will be submitted to Congress with recommendations; as soon as they are available, both reports will be shared with the library and preservation communities in the U.S. and worldwide. For further information, contact Kenneth Harris in the LC Preservation Directorate at 202-707-1054; FAX 202-707-3434.

— From a report issued by the Library of Congress

PROJECT OPEN BOOK

continued on page 1

must be present in the library for the project to proceed: a close working relationship with technology vendors, training of skilled staff, and broad administrative support in the library and administration.

The team first defined the quality of the conversion process from microfilm by exploring the impact of three factors on image quality: characteristics of the original source materials, characteristics of the microfilm itself, and technical limitations of the conversion equipment. The team then identified efficient ways to use existing database technology to develop structural indexes for the source materials stored on microfilm. Third, the team outlined in some detail the steps of the conversion process and estimated the productivity rate of each step. The third phase of Project Open Book, the production-conversion phase, has received funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities' Division of Preservation and Access. In that phase, Yale will define requirements for effective and economical digital conversion from microfilm, validate the production conversion model developed during the setup phase, and seek to optimize the efficiency of the digital conversion process.

The Setup Phase of Project Open Book has been distributed to the Commission's mailing list. Additional copies are available at no charge to sponsors and for $10.00 to others (prepayment required, with checks made payable to "Commission on Preservation and Access").

FREE PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

The following is a list of publications that the Commission is offering free of charge:

- ✔ Hazen, Dan. ***The Production and Bibliographic Control of Latin American Preservation Microforms in the United States*** (6/91, 48 pp.)
- ✔ Kesse, Erich. ***Survey of Micropublishers*** (10/92, 6 pp.)
- ✔ Klein, Christine De Bow. ***Jewelry History: A Core Bibliography in Support of Preservation*** (2/92, 52 pp.)
- ✔ Miller, Hillis. ***Preserving the Literary Heritage. The Final Report of the Scholarly Advisory Committee on Modern Language and Literature*** (7/91, 8 pp.)
- ✔ Morrow, Carolyn Clark. ***National Conference on the Development of Statewide Preservation Programs*** (1991, 108 pp.)
- ✔ Rütimann, Hans. ***The International Project, 1992 Update*** (1/93, 24 pp.)
- ✔ Rütimann, Hans. ***Preservation and Access in China: Possibilities for Cooperation*** (3/92, 16 pp.)
- ✔ Rütimann, Hans and Stuart Lynn. ***Computerization Project of the Archivo General de Indias, Seville, Spain*** (3/92, 20 pp.)
- ✔ ***Scholarly Resources In Art History: Report of the Seminar Spring Hill, Wayzata, Minnesota,* Sept. 29 - Oct. 1, 1988** (1989, 43 pp.)
- ✔ Sparks, Peter. ***Technical Considerations In Choosing Mass Deacidification Processes*** (5/90, 22 pp.)
- ✔ Stevenson, Condict Gaye. ***Working Together: Case Studies In Cooperative Preservation*** (9/91, 36 pp.)
- ✔ University of Pennsylvania Libraries. ***Report on the Preservation Planning Project*** (9/91, 44 pp.)

Single and multiple copies of the above publications are available for use at meetings, conferences, scholarly forums, and other educational purposes. For those interested in ordering, contact Sonny Koerner at the Commission.

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The Commission on Preservation and Access

Providing Access To The Accumulated Human Record As Far Into The Future As Possible

Newsletter

NUMBER 71 SEPTEMBER 1994

PRESERVATION SCIENCE RESEARCH AGENDA MOVES FORWARD

After two years of investigation and analysis, the Preservation Science Council (PSC), composed of 16 preservation administrators and four scientists, developed descriptions of six research projects addressing top-priority needs for extending the useful life of collections. The project descriptions call for the development of management tools that preservation administrators in libraries, archives and other repositories can use to make decisions about reformatting and other preservation options.

The research agenda involves investigations into the chemical deterioration of paper, film and magnetic media, as well as environmental and storage conditions. The agenda has been broadly publicized in newsletters of library, archival, and research organizations and at annual meetings of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic Artistic Works and the Society of American Archivists. One recommended project — to yield recommendations for types of storage enclosures for film — has received funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the New York State Coordinated Preservation Program.

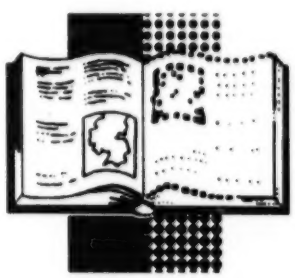
In the research report on paper aging in this newsletter, James Reilly, one of the council's scientist members, observes that the ASTM research program shares many technical objectives with the recommended project on assessing the influences of lignin on paper permanence. The Canadian Council of Archives and the National Library of the Netherlands Conservation Research Library, among other international contacts, have indicated interest in collaborating on paper research; a small group of scientists from several countries will be informally exploring how such research might be cooperatively carried forward.

The PSC recommendation for research on specific predictions concerning the life expectancy of different types of paper under different temperature and relative humidity conditions resulted in the Commission publication, *Isoperms - An Environmental Management Tool*, by Donald K. Sebera. The request for research on binding adhesives led to new cooperation and sharing of preliminary research data between a scientist from the Canadian Conservation Institute and an informal group of experts commenting on Library of Congress work in this area. Research underway at the National Media Laboratory, St. Paul, MN, relates closely to the PSC request for research on the longevity and durability of magnetic media, and several cooperative ventures are under discussion.

Project descriptions are available from the Commission. For more information, please contact Maxine Sitts, Program Officer.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS EXAMINES DIGITAL IMAGING RESOLUTION

The Preservation Directorate of the Library of Congress has contracted with Picture Elements Incorporated for consulting services to work toward resolving preservation issues related to the use of digital imaging technology in libraries and archives. The project will develop a database for captured images for purposes of comparison and evaluation; develop various approaches to image capture and compression for representative materials from the Library's print and pictorial collections; develop a methodology for evaluating image quality based on compression; provide programming to support interchange and interface needs; and develop standards-based approaches to the development of a proposed preservation file format.



A report summarizing findings and recommendations is being prepared and will be shared with the preservation community. For additional information contact Basil Manns in the Preservation Research and Testing Division at (202) 707-5213.

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RESULTS OF COLLABORATIVE MASS DEACIDIFICATION TEST AVAILABLE

Columbia University recently released a final report detailing results of a small, eight-month, pre-pilot test run of the Akzo Chemicals DEZ mass deacidification process (See also September 1993 newsletter). The collaborative project, involving Columbia, New York University, and the State University of New York at Stony Brook, was developed to foster discussion about the test results and to formulate a full-scale mass deacidification project for the 11 New York State Comprehensive Research Libraries.

A total of 400 volumes were deacidified, approximately 130 from each of the three participating institutions. Items were chosen from among the libraries' regular contingents' of non-brittle volumes in need of rebinding.

The test was a success in that all volumes finished the process with higher pH values, but the participants found that many of the post-treatment pH values were still in the acidic range. A majority of the volumes appeared to have suffered no visible change; however, several other problems were noted. A strong odor was evident during unpacking, and in about one-tenth of the sample, the filler and pigment in the cloth had been loosened during the treatment. A few volumes had plastic coated paper covers whose plastic bubbled and split during treatment, and three had adhesive failure. The process proved to have no problems with loss of Selin spine labels, notably a major difficulty in previous test runs.

Overall, damage was primarily held to covers, which are most likely to be replaced during rebinding, and the iridescent patches in books with glossy paper and photographs. Some recommendations generated from the pre-pilot test included scheduling pick-up and delivery at a location which has a loading dock, and making sure that before engaging in production-level work, there is a steady supply of volumes to be treated.

In December of 1993 Akzo Chemical announced its decision to shut down its DEZ plant. This brings the participants' involvement with deacidification to an unexpected halt. The group plans to remain abreast of developments with other deacidification processes and undertake further investigations as new processes become commercially available. For further information contact Janet Gertz, Director for Preservation, Columbia University Libraries, 535 West 114th Street, New York, NY 10027-7029, (212) 854-5757.

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The Commission on Preservation and Access was established in 1986 to foster and support collaboration among libraries and allied organizations in order to ensure the preservation of the published and documentary record in all formats and to provide enhanced access to scholarly information.

The newsletter reports on cooperative national and international activities and is directed to university administrators, scholars, and faculty; preservation specialists and managers; and members of consortia, governmental bodies, and other groups sharing in the Commission's goals. The newsletter is not copyrighted. Its duplication is encouraged.

M. Stuart Lynn - President
Maxine K. Sitts - Program Officer, Editor
Sonny Koerner - Managing Editor

NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY PROVIDES PRESERVATION SUPPORT TO RESEARCH LIBRARIES

The New York State Library (NYSL) has announced seven grants to research libraries for cooperation in preserving endangered research materials. The grants, part of a Coordinated Preservation Program enacted in 1984, total $350,000 and will preserve collections of materials important to the State and support research in preservation techniques. The 1994-95 projects include:

- Digital Training for Preservation Administrators. Cornell University will conduct one-week training seminars for representatives from the 11 Comprehensive Research Libraries on the use of digital technology for preservation reformatting. Two participants from each library will study components of imaging systems, costs and quality/production trade-offs, longevity factors in digital information, and access-related issues.

- Enclosures and Air Pollution in Image Preservation. The University of Rochester, with the cooperation of seven other Comprehensive Research Libraries, will support a two-year scientific research and development project in library preservation. The research, one of the projects put forth by the Commission's Preservation Science Council (PSC), will investigate the deleterious effects of pollutants on color and black-and-white photographic materials, especially microfilm, and test available storage enclosures for storing various types of imaging material.

- Isoperms for Color Photography: a two-year preservation research and development project. The University of Rochester, and other Comprehensive Research Libraries will support the second year of a two-year research project at the Rochester Institute of Technology to investigate optimum storage strategies for color photography. This research, also related to a PSC project, tests the isoperm approach in which the effects of storage temperature and humidity on life expectancy are quantified over a wide range of possible conditions for color negative film, color slide film, color print paper, and cinema positive film now on the market.

For more information on these and the other projects receiving grants, contact GladysAnn Wells at NYSL, Library Administration, (518) 474-4660.

A Science Review

RESEARCH ON PAPER AGING

James M. Reilly, Director, Image Permanence Institute

A workshop to identify what research may be needed to develop new standards for permanent papers attracted more than 100 representatives of the paper industry, research organizations, government agencies, and the preservation community July 6-8, 1994, in Philadelphia. "The Effects of Aging on Printing and Writing Papers" was convened by the Institute for Standards Research of The American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) in support of the work of ASTM Subcommittee D 6.50 on paper and paper products composition. The event was co-sponsored by 20 organizations including U.S. and Canadian pulp and paper companies, the National Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Property, the National Information Standards Organization, the National Library and National Archives of Canada, the U.S. National Gallery of Art, and the Canadian Conservation Institute.

Many of the technical objectives in ASTM's ambitious program overlap with those identified by the Commission's Preservation Science Council (PSC) for its recommended projects. The difference is that council projects focus on preservation management of collections rather than paper specification, which is the ultimate purpose of the standard. For example, the technical problems of how to perform predictive accelerated tests are a topic in both programs, but the council wants to use the information to learn more about the life expectancy of existing paper collections and how to make them last longer by better storage, while the ASTM program needs the same information to establish functional tests for paper permanence that will be applicable regardless of pulping technology or paper composition. The ASTM program could provide valuable insights into test methods, and the council's recommended projects can go beyond the test method issues to result in useful management tools for preservation.

The ASTM workshop grew out of the desire of producers of so-called "high-yield" pulp (pulp which contains significant amounts of non-chemically refined fiber, or lignocellulose) to base standards for permanent paper on functional, not compositional, criteria. Recent ANSI and ISO standards do not allow papers containing even modest amounts of unrefined wood fibers (which necessarily contain lignin, a non-cellulosic component of wood) to be considered as "permanent". Moving to a "performance-based" rather than a compositional definition of permanent paper would allow any type of paper to be deemed "permanent" providing it can meet the requirements of the standard. This is an issue with a long history of debate and discussion. In fact, the PSC has identified the question of the effects of lignin on paper permanence as one of the six key research projects most needed in library and archives preservation.

More than the interests of a few pulp producers are at stake since many grades of paper are being manufactured with a significant content of less-than-fully-refined fiber, and it is certain more will be made in the future. Government mandates to include recycled fiber, lower cost, and ecological considerations all tend to increase the presence of lignocellulose in finished paper. Papermaking technology is changing, and "blends" of fiber from different pulping methods will be more and more common.

> *...the Science Council wants to use the information to learn more about the life expectancy of existing paper collections and how to make them last longer by better storage*

From the preservation perspective, lignified papers have meant papers that will turn brown and fall apart, and thus they have no place in a standard for permanent paper. These problems, in paper science parlance, are referred to as "color reversion" and "loss of mechanical properties".

The validity and nature of predictive accelerated tests is a critical issue, because if they are valid and cover the right functional properties of paper, then the test methods define permanence, not the recipe or the pulping technology. Emerging as critical issues were: the demonstrable correlation of test methods with natural aging processes; the ability of existing mechanical property tests to reflect actual failure patterns of paper; the need for sufficient understanding of light and pollution-induced mechanisms of decay; and verification of the correct methods for conducting aging tests (e.g., single sheets versus stacks).

There was general agreement concerning the advantages and objectives of a standard that would contain relevant predictive tests for paper permanence. If there were agreed-upon ways to measure and predict when paper will discolor or become brittle (or any other relevant property), then paper could be specified in terms of minimum life expectancy for a particular property or properties as measured by the tests in the standard. This is how ANSI and ISO standards address the issue of fading of color photographs — not by telling the manufacturers how to make film, but by providing a standard method for measuring how long film will last at specified storage conditions. If this approach is to work for paper, much needs to be done by the preservation community to define the important

Continued on page 4

NHPRC ANNOUNCES APPLICATION DEADLINES

The NHPRC recently announced its FY1995 application deadlines for project activities that reflect the goals and objectives set forth in its strategic plan, *To Protect a Priceless Legacy: The Preservation and Use of American's Historical Records*. The deadlines are October 1, 1994; February 1, 1995; and June 1, 1995, with different types of project activities eligible against different deadlines.

These project activities include:

- Current documentary editing projects
- Projects to help local organizations preserve records and make them accessible
- New documentary projects, in various forms of publication
- Projects that help carry out the national agendas for archival progress put forward by the Society of American Archivists and the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators
- Projects that encourage collaboration within the states to promote archival and records management
- Projects for creating and updating state strategic plans for meeting records needs.

NHPRC guidelines discuss eligible projects and deadline dates, as well as outline application procedures and advice on the granting process. For further information or to request materials contact the NHPRC - NP, Room 607, National Archives Building, Washington, D.C. 20408, (202) 501-5610.

PRESERVATION THROUGH DIGITIZATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

—Excepts from "Preserving Archival Material Through Digitization", *LibraryLine*, Vol. 5, No. 4 (July 1994). By Bruce H. Bruemmer, Archivist at the Charles Babbage Institute.

..."As the Libraries make data files available on Gopher and Mosaic servers, there is increasing interest in making the resources of archives and rare book collections available over the networks. Other institutions that have made data from special collections available through the internet have reported use by patrons who would never have visited a reading room. At the same time, patrons increasingly view computer terminals as the sole source of information in the library, when in fact there is so much more available. Added to institutional costs and the lack of standards for preserving image files are the overwhelming costs of reformatting collections.

Archival collections present inordinate problems for scanning: their fragility and value prevent the use of document feeders, they are found in all sizes, and the varying image quality would demand constant changes in scanner settings. To scan the entire holdings of the Charles Babbage Institute is estimated at a minimum cost of $5 million.

Until these issues are resolved, digital files are likely to complement rather than replace originals. Once digitized, there is no limit to the potential for new use of resources from archives and special collections. Yet, using machine-readable files for preservation requires caution and patience, qualities that are not commonly found in an environment driven by computer technology."

Paper Aging

Continued from page 3

functional properties of paper and the critical amounts of change in such properties to use as "end points" in life expectancy testing.

ASTM announced that it would be seeking funds to conduct the research that the workshop identified using an advisory panel (consisting of the 20 sponsors of this workshop) to screen proposals from interested laboratories. The society intends to issue a request for preliminary research proposals inviting labs to submit project ideas. With proposals in hand, ASTM will attempt to raise the funds and then contract with individual labs for pieces of the work. The focus is to be squarely on accelerated test methods, since these were identified as at the heart of any new ASTM standards.

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The Commission on Preservation and Access

Ensuring Access To The Accumulated Human Record As Far Into The Future As Possible

Newsletter

NUMBER 72 OCTOBER 1994

RUSSIA REPORTS ON PRESERVATION REFORMATTING, COLLABORATION

Hans Rütimann, International Program Officer

Fact-finding visits to 20 libraries and archives in Russia in June 1994 provided familiar impressions of countries where the threat of acidic paper and environmental problems is exacerbated by decades of neglect. Many Russian librarians and archivists understand "preservation" to mean almost exclusively conservation, and they have placed much emphasis on repairing the original. Predictably, this hampers a large-scale preservation effort involving all the available tools (deacidification, environmental control, reformatting to film or digital). But even the efforts to repair the original are impeded by the magnitude of the task and an overall lack of funds.

The concept of collaboration with other libraries in the country and aboard is only beginning to emerge. The Library of Foreign Literature in Moscow took a lead in fostering collaboration by organizing a preservation conference in Moscow in March 1994 for librarians of the region, and by planning a large-scale symposium on preservation issues in Kiev (Ukraine) in early 1995. Some Russian librarians see the global threat to our printed and written heritage as a

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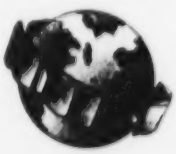
PFORZHEIMER GRANT TO SUPPORT COMMISSION GENERAL PROGRAMS

The Carl and Lily Pforzheimer Foundation has announced a $10,000 grant in support of general programs of the Commission. In its notification letter, the foundation stated, "The work you do is certainly important to our cultural history." The grant will be used to maintain the Commission's executive capacity and publications program, and to continue professional advice from scholars about priorities for preservation and access in their respective fields.

The Carl and Lily Pforzheimer Foundation maintains publishing and research activities in connection with the Carl H. Pforzheimer Library collection at the New York Public Library in the general field of American and English Literature. It provides support primarily for higher and secondary education, and also for cultural programs, public administration, a national municipal organization, and health care.

EROMM DATA AVAILABLE FOR SEARCHING

The database of the European Register of Microform Masters (EROMM) has been successfully loaded into the Research Libraries Information Network (RLIN) bibliographic files, joining records representing over 60 million items held in over 200 of the world's research institutions. The newly loaded data available for searching by librarians, students and faculty covers records contributed to EROMM up until August 1993. Periodic updates are expected.



EROMM is being created as a central database of truly international character to coordinate preservation microfilming activities of European libraries. In May 1994, the Commission board approved funds in support of Phase 2 of EROMM, during which permanent service will be established and new partners will be added. The contract with the Niedersächsische Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek Göttingen, the EROMM managing partner, followed a Commission-sponsored planning meeting in March 1994 that included the four original EROMM partners (Great Britain, France, Germany and Portugal) and representatives from Poland, the Netherlands, Denmark, Switzerland and Austria. EROMM activities are a part of the Commission's International Program funded by the Mellon Foundation.

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AMIGOS TO HOST THIRD PRESERVATION MANAGEMENT SEMINAR

The AMIGOS Preservation Service is making plans to host the third College Libraries Preservation Management Seminar in 1995. Negotiations with faculty and host sites are now underway.

Developed by the Commission's College Libraries Committee and the Southeastern Library Network (SOLINET), the seminar is an intensive, week-long program for library staff who have part-time preservation responsibilities. The seminar was previously held in the Southeast in 1991, and the Northeast in 1993. AMIGOS hopes to attract librarians from the Southwestern U.S. as well as national and international registrants. Participation in the seminar will help library staff members develop the management skills and activities that contribute to successful preservation programs.

The seminar will enable academic libraries to implement effective, decentralized strategies for preserving their general collections. The training is predicated on the realities at college libraries, especially available resources and the distribution of preservation activities among several departments. The seminar will equip librarians to assess their institutions' preservation needs, develop feasible solutions, establish priorities, and articulate practical plans.

Details on the date and site for the program, a list of faculty, and other information on the seminar will be forthcoming soon. Contact Tom Clareson, AMIGOS Preservation Service Manager, at (800) 843-8482.

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The Commission on Preservation and Access was established in 1986 to foster and support collaboration among libraries and allied organizations in order to ensure the preservation of the published and documentary record in all formats and to provide enhanced access to scholarly information.

The newsletter reports on cooperative national and international activities and is directed to university administrators, scholars, and faculty; preservation specialists and managers; and members of consortia, governmental bodies, and other groups sharing in the Commission's goals. The newsletter is not copyrighted. Its duplication is encouraged.

M. Stuart Lynn - President
Maxine K. Sitts - Program Officer, Editor
Sonny Koerner - Managing Editor

NEH BUDGET REMAINS FLAT FOR FOURTH YEAR

The House of Representatives and Senate have passed a flat budget for the National Endowment for the Humanities for fiscal year 1995, which marks the fourth consecutive year with virtually no growth in funding for that agency's preservation and access programs. As reported by the National Humanities Alliance *(NHA Washington News Report, 6/27/94)*, in a reflection of the very tight budget allocation this year, subcommittee chair Rep. Sidney R. Yates (D-IL) recommended only two changes to the administration's budget: adding $1 million to the National Endowment for the Arts budget to soften a subsequent reduction voted on the floor, and restoring the National Capital Arts and Cultural Affairs Program. Although the NHA, the Federation of State Humanities Councils, the Association of Research Libraries, and the Commission, among others, had testified and otherwise made the case for an increase for NEH of up to 12 percent, the budget remains at $177,383,000. In 1993, the NEH final budget was $177,491,000.

At press time, the NEH budget was going into conference, and there was a slight possibility of a budget reduction due to an across-the-board cut. The *NHA Report* notes that the flat budget for 1995 translates into less funding for grants because the agency has to absorb increased costs, including Congressionally mandated salary increases for which no extra funds are provided.

TECHNOLOGIES DISPLAYED AT APSA, SAA

In collaboration with the Pennsylvania State University Libraries and the Xerox Corporation, the Commission provided a display of digital technologies for preservation and access at the annual meetings of the American Political Science Association (APSA) in New York City and the Society of American Archivists (SAA) in Indianapolis last month. The Penn project to scan the archives of the Steel Workers' Organizing Committee was one of several efforts of the Commission's 11-member Digital Preservation Consortium. Brochures describing the project are available from: Sue Kellerman, Preservation Officer, East 506 Pattee Library, Penn State University, University Park, PA 16802.

At APSA, librarians from Penn State, the Smithsonian Institution Libraries and New York Public Library staffed the Commission exhibit. APSA regional journal editors invited the Commission to discuss preservation aspects of electronic publishing and to plan a co-sponsored workshop at the 1995 APSA meeting. At SAA, staff from libraries at Penn State; Washington University, St. Louis; and Indiana University assisted at the exhibit. James Druzik of the Getty Conservation Institute and Christine Ward of the New York State Archives, both members of the Commission's Preservation Science Council, were invited by SAA to give a presentation on the science research initiative.

RUSSIA REPORTS

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means to reestablish relations with institutions in the newly independent republics.

The fact-finding trip was undertaken with the organizational help of the International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX) and with funds from the United States Information Agency (USIA). Similar meetings were arranged for Moscow, St. Petersburg, Tula, Ryazan, and Rybnoe by the local host library.

Ed Note: The following summary of a project on preservation and copying of depositories of the Ural libraries and archives was submitted to the Commission International Program in conjunction with the Moscow Seminar held at the Library of Foreign Literature. Some of the project has been completed, but the main part of the work is still to be done.

Complex Project on microfiching and establishment of the Preservation Database of rare publications and manuscripts from depositories of libraries, museums, archives and private holdings in the Urals

To establish the Preservation Information Database and a united information network in the Ural region; for identification and preservation, registration and scientific description of the literature and cultural masterpieces, including those written in the languages of Ural people; to preserve archive materials, manuscripts and early-printed books, books printed on acidic paper, books influenced by humidity, microorganisms, etc., the following regional project has been worked out:

1. Preservation of the masterpieces of Old Russian manuscript-written tradition of the Urals (15th-early 20th century).
   It includes early-printed books and manuscripts in the Church Slavonic language. Among them there are publications of Sh.Feol and an anonymous printing-house in Moscow, as well as the printing-houses of Ivan Phyodorov and the Moscow Printing Shop, old-believers' publications and others; original manuscripts by Russian authors.
   At present there are about 20,000 literary monuments, and the work on identification and registration of the new ones is underway.
   Microfiching is supposed to be done on black-and-white and colored film. In the future the duplication of books in single exact copies is planned. At the same time there is the work on creation of the common electronic database.
2. Microfiching of the Ural periodicals since 1789.
   Phase I: periodicals (1789 - 1920) - about 1,000 titles, including province gazettes (the Permskie, Orenburgskie, Ufimskie, Tobolskie, Vyatskie); the diocese gazettes, newspapers of principal towns of provinces and districts, and etc.
3. Microfiching of the books published by the Ural Publishing Houses since 1792.
   Phase I:
   a) Publications of numerous local-lore communities established after 1917 and abolished after 1929. Their publications were prohibited and destroyed and only a few copies were preserved. These are bibliographic rarity.
   Besides those communities, in the Urals during that time-period there were the so-called Istpart Bureaus (Bureau of Commissions on the Study of the History of the Bolsheviks' party and the October Revolution). Those "Istparts" collected and published the documents of not only the Bolsheviks' Party but also of other parties: the ones of Mensheviks, Socialist-Revolutionaries... These publications are also bibliographic rarity.
   b) Rare reference publications of the Urals only single copies of which are preserved: guide-books, address-calendars of provinces...
   There are in total about 20,000 titles of books published in the Urals since 1792 till 1930.
4. Preservation copies of the documents of the Archive Fund of the Russian Federation (Ural region) are to be made on microfiches.
   Phase I: making preservation copies of unique and especially valuable documents.
5. Besides microfiching it is planned to build the following common registers:
   a) Common Register of the civil Russian books in the collections of the Urals (18th-the first quarter of 19th century).
   A complete scientific description of books is given. Besides bibliographic description, there is information on peculiarities of some definite copy (owner's notes, ex-librises, labels, stamps and others). There are about 20,000 titles. The most books are taken from the largest libraries of the pre-revolutionary Urals: the private ones - of works-owners Demidoffs, of landowners Golubtsovs and others; the public ones - in Zemstvos, educational institutions...
   b) The Register of books in foreign languages (English, French, German, Latin...) published in the printing-houses of Europe during 16th - early 20th centuries, taken from the Ural collections.
   In working out and fulfillment of the project the following institutions take part:
   1. The Belinsky Regional Scientific Library
   2. The Scientific Library of the Ural State University
   3. The State Archive of the Sverdlovsk region
   4. The Bank of Cultural Information

RLG MANUAL ADDRESSES ARCHIVAL MICROFILMING

The newly published *RLG Archives Microfilming Manual* from the Research Libraries Group (RLG) addresses the many issues involved in preserving manuscripts and other archival materials on microfilm. It is based on the earlier manual, *RLG Preservation Microfilming Handbook* (1992), which provides guidelines for filming monographs and serials. The new 218-page manual applies and adapts established principles to archival preservation and examines in depth the special problems involved in selecting, preparing, filming, and providing access to archival materials being preserved on microfilm.

To order, contact Distribution Services Center, RLG, 1200 Villa Street, Mountain View, CA 94041-1100.

ARL MEMBERS AUTOMATING PRESERVATION OPERATIONS

Developments in technology are reshaping the way preservation administrators conduct their work, offering opportunities to rethink preservation functions, and resulting in new tools that allow for more efficient management and analysis of operations. At the same time, automation brings with it continuously changing hardware, software, and systems access. The Association of Research Libraries (ARL) Office of Management Services SPEC Kit (#198), *Automating Preservation Management in ARL Libraries*, provides a snapshot of the types of preservation management systems already in place, and of those being planned. Most significant will be the use of digital technologies to preserve deteriorating research materials, and the use of expert (knowledge-based) systems to assist in preservation decision making.

ARL also has released its *1992-93 Preservation Statistics*. This report presents statistical data on the current level of preservation efforts in 114 U.S. and Canadian research libraries. The data were collected in machine-readable form for the first time, and highlight key organizational, functional, and fiscal components that characterize preservation programs.

For more information contact ARL, 21 Dupont Circle, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20036, (202) 296-2296.

...We need to work together as never before and abandon many of our usual suspicions and territorial imperatives. Broadcasters and filmmakers will have to think beyond their next anniversary or major retrospective/restoration. The major public archives have to let others also provide some leadership and viable models for moving image preservation.... More resources for current efforts are sorely needed for moving image preservation, but we cannot assume that more resources will automatically be forthcoming for our current programs an strategies, no matter how worthy they are.

— Elinor J. Dick, President, Association of Moving Image Archivists (AMIA). Quoted in the , *AMIA Newsletter*, July 1994.

NISO RELEASES PAPER AGING PROCEEDINGS

A group of 16 papers released by the National Information Standards Organization (NISO) cover the proceedings of the Institute for Standards Research Workshop on the Effects of Aging on Printing and Writing Papers held July 6-8, 1994 (see September 1994 newsletter). The publication is directed toward publishers, production managers who are buying paper, and librarians working in the area of preservation and conservation. Copies are available for $95.00 (plus shipping & handling) from NISO Press. To order call (800) 282-NISO.

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Newsletter

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MAGNETIC MEDIA PARTNERSHIP TO DEVELOP MANAGEMENT TOOL

The National Media Lab (NML), St. Paul, MN, has joined with the Commission Preservation Science Council to pursue the development of management tools for the storage and life prediction of magnetic media. The immediate goal is to determine how to optimize for the preservation community the research the NML has developed to date.

The NML brings to the collaboration an extensive program of experimental research and mathematical modeling on a range of magnetic media types. These data track media stability on such physical and chemical properties as: binder hydrolysis, remanence, coercivity, top coat adhesion and friction. Changes in these properties are plotted over time at various temperatures and relative humidities.

This project addresses the critical needs of one of the fastest growing collections of materials in developed and developing countries alike — magnetic media in all its forms. Magnetic media contains scientific and engineering research data, demographic, historical and social information, and digital and analog music and video.

There is little doubt that magnetic media used for archival purposes will need to be "migrated" at some point. However, there are almost no extant management tools to prioritize magnetic collections for migration or for spotting degradation before the media is unreadable. There are no published specifications for the permanence of information on magnetic media. Magnetic tapes and diskettes are not considered to

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SHOT MEMBERS EXPLORE TECHNOLOGIES FOR PRESERVATION, ACCESS

At the annual meeting of the Society for the History of Technology (SHOT, October 6-9, 1994, Lowell, MA), the Commission's technology display featured two separate photo-CD demonstrations. The Smithsonian Institution Libraries displayed full-color photographs from their special collections on photo-CD and other media in various resolutions, providing hands-on opportunities for scholars and professors to examine materials and comment on their preferences for use of reformatted images. The set of materials was prepared by Luna Imaging, Venice, CA.

The Ford Museum provided a sound-and-picture photo-CD presentation on plans for enhancing access to and preservation of museum collections — three-dimensional artifacts and library materials — using digital technologies. The SHOT members, while at

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COMMISSION TO RELEASE 1993-1994 ANNUAL REPORT

The Commission's *1993-1994 Annual Report* is scheduled for release and distribution this month. The report covers activities in the International Program, the Brittle Books Program, Technology Assessment, Scholarly Involvement, Communication, and Institutional and Education Initiatives. This year's special report section highlights work in Preservation Science Research, "a necessary component of a comprehensive preservation program to address critical technical issues faced by colleges, universities and archives that are responsible for both large and small culturally important collections."

Copies will be distributed to Commission sponsors and mailing lists, and additional copies will be made available while supplies last.

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TECHNOLOGIES EXPLORED

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differing levels of technical knowledge, were nearly all end-users rather than producers. As such, they were most interested in how the technology could be useful to them, either in the classroom or in their own research. The most frequent questions concerned how professors and scholars could obtain the images and citation information from their own work sites.

A lunch time workshop organized by the Society's secretary and co-sponsored by the Commission addressed preservation and access issues that confront technology historians through a discussion panel that included a museum professional, a historian at NASA, and two business/technological historians with experience in contract research for government and corporations. In recent years, scholars seeking access to research collections in the private as well as government arena are finding cumbersome restrictions more common, complicated questions about copyright unanswered, and classification of government documents troublesome, according to the SHOT secretariat. Historians of technology, including those who work with artifacts as well as documents, face special difficulties. SHOT is considering possible actions to support preservation and access initiatives. The workshop highlighted the problems that exist in preserving records and gaining access to them, but also identified the role that historians can play in educating various holders of records and artifacts about this subject. The Society expects to take a more direct stance on this subject, believing there exists a need to inform members about ways to deal with these issues. The SHOT exhibit was supported by funds from the Gladys Krieble Delmas and H.W. Wilson Foundations.

For more information, contact Bruce Seely, SHOT Secretary, Department of Social Sciences, Michigan Technological University, 1400 Townsend Drive, Houghton, MI 49931-1295. Email BSEELY@MTU.EDU.

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M. Stuart Lynn - President
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Sonny Koerner - Managing Editor

MUSEUM COMPUTER NETWORK RECEIVES GRANT TO EXPLORE LONG-TERM ACCESS

The Museum Computer Network (MCN) was one of two recipients in the Arts and Culture category of the Telecommunications and Information Infrastructure Assistance Program (TIIAP) of the U.S. Department of Commerce, receiving an award of $158,150 to support Cultural Heritage Information Online (CHIO). CHIO, a project of the consortium for Computer Interchange of Museum Information (CIMI), will create a database of multimedia folk art available to Internet users. Project CHIO will demonstrate access to text, images, and publications.

According to Maxwell Anderson, Chair of the Association of Art Museum Directors, CHIO represents a concerted effort to prepare for the interactive future of U.S. museums, and this important grant is a first step in the large-scale interconnection of institutions, artworks, and audiences. CIMI's aim in undertaking this project is to help assure that valuable cultural heritage information can truly be shared electronically with a large number of people far into the future. CIMI argued in its application that if standards are not implemented by the museum community now, "while museums are in the relatively early stages of information automation, the electronic doors to many of these museums may be closed to the public and the rich contents hidden from view."

For further information contact John Perkins, CIMI Project Manager, 16 Schooner Dr., RR1, Boutiliers Point, Nova Scotia, Canada B0J 1G0.

REPORT CALLS FOR HUMANITIES AND ARTS VOICE IN NII

An alliance of major humanities and arts organizations has issued a report calling on the Federal Government to recognize the value of the American cultural heritage in planning the National Information Infrastructure (NII). *Humanities and Arts on the Information Highways - a Profile*, coincides with the release of a related position paper by the White House Information Infrastructure Task Force at a Council on Competitiveness conference (September 7-8, 1994).

The federal paper, part of *Putting the Information Infrastructure to Work* (Vol. II), presents strategies for applying information technologies to the cultural sector. The Alliance, led by the Getty Art History Information Program, the American Council of Learned Societies, and the Coalition for Networked Information, has issued the report to stimulate and guide response to the Administration's call for public comment. The report defines the special challenges and opportunities associated with digitizing cultural heritage information, and highlights ways in which a fully interactive and exploratory environment would transform the NII from a link between computers to a link between people.

Copies of the report are available upon request. Contact the Getty Art History Information Program, Director, Eleanor Fink, 401 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1100, Santa Monica, CA 90401-1455, (310) 395-1025, ext. 1164.

MANAGEMENT TOOL

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have archival properties, so "archival storage" is simply prolonging the inevitable loss of the information. For example, the General Accounting Office (GAO) reported on the improper storage of 1.2 million magnetic tapes belonging to NASA and the Jet Propulsion Lab (JPL). They allege that nearly one-half of 130,000 tapes stored in Laguna Niguel may be irreversibly damaged. The problem is partly hydrolysis of the binder used to hold the magnetic particles to the polyester film base.

While there is ongoing research and data available on durable or "robust" magnetic media, archivists and librarians do not have access to this information or understand little of the nature or properties of the media, how it reacts to ambient conditions in storage and during use, and how that relates to the long-term preservation and use of the information recorded on magnetic media.

In 1993 the Preservation Science Initiative carried out a survey of preservation administrators from fifteen major U.S. research institutions. The survey asked the administrators to set priorities for scientific research based upon their analysis of preservation needs in their own institutions. Overall, administrators ranked magnetic media as one of the highest preservation priorities today. Of the fifteen institutions that participated in the survey: Stanford University Libraries, Yale University Library, Northwestern University Library, Library of Congress, New York State Archives and Ohio State University Libraries all ranked magnetic media as their most pressing problem. In addition to those surveyed, several major audio-visual archives and professional associations in the U.S. support the need for this research including The National Center for Film and Video Preservation at the American Film Institute and The Louis Wolfson II Media History Center and Popular Music Collection, Georgia State University.

In order to concentrate on the types of media relevant to libraries and archives, we are seeking assistance in the following areas:

- Types of magnetic media that make up the bulk of extant collections.
- Types of media used or contemplated for migration or back-up.
- And/or types of media by manufacturer, magnetic particle, binder and substrate.

Those interested in participating are requested to contact:

James R. Druzik
The Getty Conservation Institute
(jdruzik@getty.edu)

Maxine K. Sitts
Commission on Preservation and Access
(msitts@cni.org)

or

Chris Ward
New York State Archives
(cward2%sedofis@vm1.nysed.gov)

PRESERVATION MANAGEMENT SEMINAR INSPIRED REED COLLEGE WORKSHOP

As a follow-up to the second Preservation Management Seminar for College Librarians, held on the Wellesley College campus July 22-30, 1993, Reed College sponsored a book repair workshop in April 1994.

According to Marilyn Kierstead, Special Collections Librarian at Reed College, "The preservation seminar at Wellesley College gave us the information and inspiration for examining this library's approach to preserving its collections. One of the most basic tools in the preservation arsenal is the treatment of damaged books. We have always repaired our materials in what seemed to us the quickest and easiest ways possible but without a great deal of thought, certainly not in the broader context of preservation. It was apparent that we need to look more seriously at what we did in repair and to consider long-term effects."

Kierstead indicated that attitudes about preservation had been changed, and "everyone came away with an understanding of preservation needs and an appreciation of the importance of their jobs. We see this as only a beginning. We hope to expand that preservation awareness for our own campus and for our neighboring libraries."

For more information on the third Preservation Management Seminar - to be held Summer 1995 in the Southwest - contact Tom Clareson at AMIGOS, (800) 843-8482.

COLLECTION CARE AND PREVENTATIVE PRESERVATION MANUAL AVAILABLE

The Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC) recently announced the publication of the second edition of *Preservation of Library and Archival Materials: A Manual*. This updated and expanded version of the manual was funded in part by a grant from the Institute of Museum Services (IMS). Rapid technical changes and the evolving viewpoint of the preservation profession prompted NEDCC to update the manual and add topics that were not included in the original publication.

New leaflets include "Importance of Collections Policies," "Light Protection for Library and Archival Materials," "Storage Solutions for Oversize Paper Artifacts," and "The Implications of Digital Imaging for Preservation." The manual is approximately 250 pages and consists of a series of 46 technical leaflets, 11 of which are new. The emphasis is on collection care and prevention of deterioration of whole collections. Topics covered include planning and prioritizing, the environment, emergency management, storage and handling, reformatting, and conservation procedures.

Copies are available for $40.00 from NEDCC, 100 Brickstone Square, Andover, MA 01810. For questions regarding the manual contact Sherelyn Ogden, (508) 470-1010.

UPDATE ON COOPERATIVE MICROFILMING IN FINLAND

Esko Häkli, director of The National Library of Finland, provides the following short report on a cooperative preservation microfilming project with the National Library of Estonia:

"Helsinki University Library initiated at the beginning of 1993 a major project with the aim to microfilm all Estonian newspapers from the period of independence, 1918-1940. Newspapers are, as the only reliable record of everyday life at that time, heavily used and subject to a rapid physical deterioration.

About 500 titles mainly in Estonian with about 800,000 pages will be microfilmed during a period of five years. In addition to newspapers in Estonian a minor number of newspapers in Russian and other foreign languages are included.

The project will be financed by Helsinki University Library. The microfilming is being done in Tallinn, Estonia, by the National Library of Estonia. Two other Estonian libraries, the Library of the Academy of Sciences in Tallinn and the Library of the University of Tarto participated in the Project. The laboratory work is done in Helsinki by the Audiovisual Centre of the University, that also is responsible for the technical quality of the films. International standards are being followed.

During the past period of one and a half years, ten newspapers have been filmed resulting in 330 reels of rollfilm. According to the agreement between the cooperating libraries, each of the Estonian libraries receive a full set of microfilms free of charge. Helsinki University Library has been given the right to sell copies of the microfilms to other libraries and interested bodies worldwide."

Häkli's report revises the information in the "Microfilming Projects Abroad" section of *The International Project 1992 Update* published in January 1993. Remaining copies are available at no charge from the Commission.

COMPLIMENTARY BROCHURES AVAILABLE

Brochures prepared as part of technology demonstrations from the Johns Hopkins University (JHU) Library and the Pennsylvania State University Libraries are available from the Commission. The JHU brochure focuses on the preservation aspects of Project MUSE, an initiative to provide networked access to the JHU Press's scholarly journals. The Penn State brochure describes a demonstration project to test the feasibility of digital imaging technology for scanning and storing archival materials. An accompanying fact sheet provides answers to frequently asked questions about the project. The brochures, as well as a listing of technology demonstrations hosted by the Commission, are available from Sonny Koerner, Communications Assistant.

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